



Traveling with the Brigade



Traveling with the Royal Brigade can be one of the most fun and exciting experiences of your high school career. Whether it's across town or across the country, there are several things that will help make sure that your trip is safe as well as memorable.

Rules/expectations - Whether in school or traveling with the band, students are expected to follow the same code of conduct. When we travel with the Royal Brigade, our actions not only reflect upon ourselves and our ensemble, but upon our school and our community. Students are expected to be respectful of each other, the band parents, and members of the other bands. Students are also expected to be respectful of the facilities we are visiting and the buses on which we are traveling. Failure to follow school rules or demonstrate basic respect for yourself or others may result in removal from the trip at your expense.

Schedule - The daily schedule for all of our trips will be released to students and families prior to each trip. Throughout the day, students will be reminded of the schedule and will be expected to adhere to it. This is especially important immediately before a show or when the bus is scheduled to depart. Don't let yourself be the person that the rest of the band is waiting on. Remember, to be early is to be on time and to be on time is to be late.

Buses - When traveling on buses, the Royal Brigade utilizes parent chaperones. Although there cannot be a director on every bus, students are expected to behave appropriately and follow instructions from all chaperones and their bus driver. We do not assign specific buses ahead of time for trips. Instead, students sign a bus list when they board on travel day, and once they have signed in, must stay on that bus for the entirety of the trip.

Chaperones & Parent Volunteers - In addition to the directors and staff members, the band travels with a large group of parent volunteers. These parents help us with uniforms, props, and equipment, as well as with general supervision. Students are expected to be respectful of our chaperones and parent volunteers at all times.

Contest Expectations - Although the performance is an important part of our trip, a great deal can be learned by watching other bands perform. Therefore, students are expected to be in the stadium watching other performances anytime we are not preparing for or tearing down from our show. And just like we want people to be respectful and supportive of us when we perform, it is important that we are quiet and attentive when others are performing. Remember, you never know who is watching so behave accordingly.



Traveling with the Brigade

Page 2



Bus snacks - Band students are welcome to bring snacks on the bus, however, out of respect for students with nut allergies, snacks may not contain peanuts. Students are expected to clean up after themselves. Failure to do so will result in the prohibition of snacks on future trips.

Meals - Many of our trips extend over one or more meal times. In these instances, students will be responsible for providing their own meals. Depending on the circumstance, students may be asked to bring a sack lunch with them to eat once we arrive at the show site. Students may also be asked to bring money so that they can eat either at the concession stand or at a fast food hub. This distinction will be made on the itinerary prior to the trip.

Equipment - The Royal Brigade travels with multiple equipment trucks, and it is everyone's responsibility to see that the equipment is loaded onto them. Students will be assigned specific equipment-related responsibilities to help the loading and unloading process. These assignments may range from assisting with props to making sure that your instrument is loaded and unloaded appropriately.

Instruments - While there is room for the largest instruments on the equipment trucks, most instruments travel with us on the bus. This includes flutes, clarinets, bass clarinets, alto saxes, tenor saxes, trumpets, and trombones. Baritones and mellophones may also go on the bus with us depending on the space available on the truck. Percussionists are expected to keep their sticks and mallets with them on the bus as well. These instruments are your responsibility throughout the trip.

Overnight Gym Stay - If the Royal Brigade is traveling far enough from Waukee, we will stay overnight in a high school gym. When we do this, students need to bring a sleeping bag and an air mattress, along with everything they will need for a shower and their bedtime routine. Students will be divided by gender, with boys on one side of the gym, girls on the other, and chaperones down the middle. Students will be expected to be quiet and sleep at lights out time. More information will be provided about any gym stays as the trip gets closer.