



Proposal for Overnight/Extended Student Trips (Academic)

Email Address	<i>dorian.foster@rimsd41.org</i>
Type of Trip	<i>Enrichment</i>
Proposed Departure Date	<i>Jan 07, 2027</i>
Return Date	<i>Jan 09, 2027</i>
Proposer	<i>Dorian Foster</i>
School	<i>RIHS</i>
Position	<i>Theatre Director & Teacher</i>
Date By Which Response Is Needed	<i>Mar 31, 2026</i>
What is the major place to be visited or event to be attended?	<i>Illinois High School Theatre Festival</i>
How is the trip related to the educational program of the District?	<i>Students will participate in workshops, attend public performances, visit exhibits, and network with peers and professionals. Seniors will have the opportunity to audition for college theatre programs</i>
In what ways will the students benefit?	<i>Students will benefit by participating in various workshops of choice, practicing positive audience behavior while viewing public performances, reviewing peer performances, networking with industry professionals and college programs</i>
In what ways will the District benefit?	<i>The district will benefit from our students getting to work with theatre professionals and see the opportunities the field of theatre arts has to offer throughout the state and nation. They will bring these experiences back to enhance their overall program. Also, our district will gain recognition at the state level for supporting its arts programs beyond music and visual arts. In the past, our school has been selected by the festival to perform a show, and two of our students were selected to perform in the All-State production</i>
How will the trip be evaluated to determine the extent to which these benefits were realized?	<i>Students can report to a group of their peers and/or other district stakeholders to reflect upon the trip</i>
Which students (grade, class, or organization)	<i>9 – 12 grade extra-curricular theatre students</i>

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will be going?	
How many students in total?	<i>Approximately 10-15</i>
How many students are currently experiencing academic problems?	<i>None of the students have any current academic concerns</i>
Which staff members will be in charge?	<i>Dorian Foster</i>
What previous experience has the staff member had in conducting overnight or extended field trips?	<i>Mrs. Foster has chaperoned the RIHS band trip to San Antonio in 2006, the Illinois High School Theatre Festival's All-State group in 2004, and the 2019 NYC trip with the music department. She has coordinated and conducted trips to IHSTF 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 (missing 2021-2022 due to COVID shutdowns). She led a student trip to London, UK, over the summer of 2025.</i>
What other staff members will be going?	<i>Meaghan Jackson, Devin James</i>
How many chaperones, in addition to staff members, will be going?	<i>NA</i>
What are their names and affiliations with the students?	<i>NA</i>
How many days of school will be missed?	<i>1.5</i>
How will teachers be advised in advance that the students will be out of school?	<i>List of students will be sent to the attendance office and the staff.</i>
How will missed work be made up?	<i>Students are expected to communicate with their teachers</i>
What special assistance will be provided to students with academic problems?	<i>Mrs. Foster will encourage or require attending enrichment in her room or with the teacher of the course(s) in question. A suitable amount of growth will be required for the student to remain eligible for the trip. Students must be academically and behaviorally eligible at the time of signing up</i>
What is the destination?	<i>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>

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What will be the mode of transportation? What liability insurance does the carrier have?	<i>Passenger vans through MVP (Milan, IL). 5 million per person, per incident.</i>
Where will the group be housed and fed?	<i>Housing is TBD. Students were housed at Ramada Limited, Eastland Suites, and Best Western in Bloomington in previous years. We've also stayed at the Hampton Inn in Champaign and Best Western in Monticello, IL. The festival alternates between ISU and U of I. Similar accommodations will be secured each year. The hotel provides breakfast—students are responsible for other meals.</i>
What enroute or supplementary activities are planned?	<i>Restrooms and snacks</i>
What arrangements have been made for dealing with emergency situations?	<i>The Festival requires all participants to complete and submit a medical release form with contact and insurance information for each student to be kept on file in the event of an emergency. Students and their families will have access to Festival housing and chaperone/participant phone numbers.</i>
If tour guides are involved, what liability insurance do they carry?	<i>NA</i>
What is the estimated total cost and cost per student?	<i>\$250 per student</i>
What is the source of funds?	<i>Students will provide their funds and do fundraising if necessary.</i>
How will the funds be collected and safeguarded?	<i>Funds will be collected on designated payment dates over 4 months and placed into the high school drama activity account.</i>
How will any shortfall be made up or excess funds used?	<i>Any excess funds will be used toward the students needs in the theatre program. We do not foresee any shortfall, but the theatre department would make up the difference.</i>
What provision has been made for students who are financially unable to pay any necessary	<i>This trip is optional and open to all students who wish to participate. Fundraisers can be made</i>

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costs?	<i>available to use toward the trip. We will also work with students on an individual basis if the need should arise. It is a goal to help students and families have enough time to plan by announcing it before the end of the previous school year and again at the beginning of the new school year.</i>
How will you communicate to parents prior to, during, and after the trip?	<i>The festival requires emergency forms with parent contacts and health insurance information. Students will have unlimited access to parent contact through telephone, messaging, and social media outside of attending performances and workshops. Communication to parents should not be a problem.</i>
List telephone numbers at destination where group will be housed.	<i>We can send them as soon as they become available.</i>
What information will be provided to the media and the community?	<i>We can send information prior to the trip to the communications department for proper information to be sent to the media and community.</i>
Athletic Director Approval (Athletic trips only)	Approved by
Principal approval	Approved by <i>Patricia Ulrich</i>
Superintendent/Designee approval	Approved by <i>Scott Vance</i> on Mar 05, 2026 13:25
Signature of School Board Representative	