

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: Field Trips

ADOPTED: April 27, 1981

REVISED: December 17, 1990

121 FIELD TRIPS

Purpose

The Board Recognizes that field trips -- when used as a device for teaching and learning integral to the curriculum -- are an educationally sound and important ingredient in the instructional program of the schools. Properly planned and executed field trips can supplement and enrich classroom procedures by providing learning experiences in an environment outside the schools; arouse new interest among students; help students relate school experiences to the reality of the world outside of school; bring all the resources of the community -- natural, artistic, industrial, commercial, governmental, educational -- within the ambit of a student's learning experience; and afford students the opportunity to study real things and real processes in their actual environment.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, a "field trip" shall be defined as any journey by pupils away from the school premises, under the supervision of a teacher, which is an integral part of an approved course of study and conducted for the purpose of affording a first-hand educational experience not available in the classroom.

Authority

Although overnight trips can usually be educationally justified, because of cost and risks involved, they should not be taken unless they are of significant educational importance to the students.

Students on field trips remain under the supervision and responsibility of the Board and are subject to its rules and regulations.

The Board does not endorse, support or assume responsibility in any way for any staff member of this district who takes students on trips not approved by the Board or Superintendent. No staff member may solicit students of this district for such trips within the facilities or on the school grounds of the district without Board permission.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations on educationally sound program of field trips. These regulations shall include, as a minimum:

1. Signed parental permission before any student is removed from school for a field trip
2. Protection at all times of the safety and well-being of the students
3. Principal's approval of the purpose, itinerary, and duration of the proposed trip
4. Integration of the trip with the mandated curriculum involving pre-planning as well as follow-up.

Legal References

State School Code: SS 1361