Lowell Public Schools

Lowell High School
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Marianne E. Busteed
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November 13, 2019

Dr. Joel Boyd, Superintendent
Lowell Public Schools
155 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01852

Re: Lowell High School AJFJROTC National Drill Team Competition

Dear Dr. Boyd:

I respectfully request your support and approval for the Lowell High School JROTC Drill Team to travel to the "2020 All Service JROTC Nationals Drill Competition Championships" in May 2020. Lowell High School AFJROTC was invited to this All Service National Drill Competition after finishing 6th in the Armed Division and Unarmed Division at the All Service National Drill Competition in Daytona Beach, Florida last year. Lowell High School AFJROTC has competed at the Air Force National Drill competition for the last twelve years and is ready to again take on the very best from Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force teams from across the country! The competition is scheduled from Friday morning 1 May- Sunday night 3 May 2020 in Daytona Beach, Florida. The LHS team will be made up of approximately 45 students in grades 9-12 and will depart Lowell High School at approximately 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29th, 2020 and will return Tuesday, May 5th, 2020 by 10:00 p.m. We will be taking a coach bus for this 21 hour trip, as it would be too costly to fly to Florida. Due to the driving constraints placed on the contracted driver, we will be staying overnight in South Carolina going down to Florida and Baltimore, Maryland on the way back to Massachusetts. Due to the time the cadets will be out of school we are having each of them complete a Homework Sheet with their teachers and will allow them time on the bus and at the competition to work on their assignments (the sheet is attached to my request).

The competition focuses on many aspects of the AFJROTC curriculum, and supports learning objectives in teamwork, self-discipline and advanced drill and ceremonies. As part of the trip, students will get a tour of Andrews AFB, Maryland to see Air Force One and visit the training facility for the Air Force Honor Guard – a once in a lifetime opportunity! The appropriate parental and school permission forms will be completed prior to the trip. Lt Col Eileen St. Laurent, MSgt Kevin Casilli and TSgt David Smith will chaperone the trip. One substitute will be required for TSgt David Smith's academic classes for four days (Thursday (30 April), Friday (1 May), Monday (4 May) and Tuesday (5 May)) – he will be flying on Thursday, 30 May 2020, to check the team in and acquire our lodging/credentials and driving back on the bus with the cadets to arrive back at LHS on 5 May. Lt Col Eileen St. Laurent will be driving down on the bus on 29 April and flying back on 4 May 2020. MSgt Kevin Casilli, Grecia Aybar and Luis Morales will be on the bus the entire time from 29 April to 5 May with the cadets. The trip will be funded using a combination of AFJROTC funds, student fund-raising, and student contribution. Total cost is approximately $43,500. One substitute will be needed for the cost of $110.00 to be paid by LHS professional Development.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (978) 937-8946. I appreciate your support for this approval.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Marianne E. Busteed
Head of Lowell High School