



## LOWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

James F. Sullivan Middle School  
150 Draper St.  
Lowell, Massachusetts 01852  
(978) 937-8993

*Edward J. Foster, Ed.D.*  
*Principal*

*Michael J. Banks*  
*Assistant Principal*

October 3, 2019

Dr. Joel Boyd  
Superintendent of Lowell Public Schools

Lowell Public Schools  
Henry J. Mroz Central Administration Office  
155 Merrimack Street  
Lowell, MA 01852

Dear Dr. Boyd

At the Sullivan, we have been striving to improve the extra-curricular programming over the past two years. Last year we were able to send 16 of our eighth graders to Washington D.C. with the Dr. An Wang Middle School when Principal Stahl graciously offered slots with his school's grade 8 annual trip. From all accounts it was a wonderful time for students and adults alike. I have no doubt that the students will treasure that experience for a lifetime.

Subsequently, this year, because we have several more students interested, we will be organizing our own trip since Sullivan staff members learned a lot about the logistics of the trip last year and are ready to venture out alone.

**Thus, I would like permission for a contingent of Sullivan 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME TO BE 30-40 STUDENTS) to travel to Washington D.C through Capital Tours, Inc.**

Some important details of the the trip are as follows:

- a. The trip will take place at the conclusion of the 2020 MCAS: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 through Friday, May 29, 2020.
- b. The trip is all inclusive and costs approximately \$740 per student.

- c. We will be looking into ways (fundraising activities) to defray the cost for all participating students if necessary.
- d. This trip is at no cost to the Lowell School Department or the City of Lowell. Attached please find the parent letter, proposed itinerary, and the optional trip cancellation insurance.
- e. The Sullivan Middle School will provide its own staff as chaperone(s): Currently Mr. Keith Valliere, Sullivan Math Teacher, will be head chaperone. If more are needed. (One chaperone for 10 students are needed.), chaperoning will be teachers Daniel Purcell (Gr. 8 SS teacher), Ashley Galipeau (Gr. 8 ELA teacher), Marysa Mitrano (Gr. 8 SS teacher).
- f. There is no fee for chaperones and substitutes will not be needed in teachers' absence from school.
- g. Although students will be missing 4 days (5/26/20, 5/27/20, 5/28/20, 5/29/20) of school, the trip to Washington, D.C. will enhance their understanding of multiple standards identified in the Massachusetts History and Social Science Curriculum Frameworks, U.S. History Learning Standards, most especially: **USI.11** Describe the purpose and functions of government. **USI.13** Explain why the United States government is classified as a democratic government. **USI.14** Explain the characteristics of American democracy, including the concepts of popular sovereignty and constitutional government, which includes representative institutions, Federalism, separation of powers, shared powers, checks and balances, and individual rights. **USI.15** Explain the varying roles and responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments in the United States.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request.

Sincerely,



Ed Foster

J.F. Sullivan Middle School Principal