

Nature Coast Technical High School

4057 California Street
Brooksville, FL 34604

Toni-Ann Noyes
Principal

Phone (352) 797-7088
Fax (352) 797-7188

To whom it may concern:

The senior class of 2025 is requesting to visit Washington DC in the spring of 2025. This will be the school's 10th trip as a senior class to the Nation's Capital. Our ideal dates to travel will be Sunday, March 30th through Friday, April 4th of 2025. We would like to request a date range of 3/28/25 through 4/8/25. This will help ensure wiggle room when working with the airlines to get the best airline price possible by having flexibility in our dates.

Attached you will find our itinerary for this year's 2024 trip. We plan to follow the same itinerary with very few changes. You will also find the field trip packet completed to the best of our ability. Some information in the field trip packet cannot be provided until further dates. Until we know the names of students attending, number of students attending, etc. we cannot provide complete information. Upon receiving future information – all forms will be updated to reflect final numbers, chaperones, etc.

We plan to fly direct from Tampa International to Reagan National Airport. We are unable to book a flight and obtain exact flight numbers until we have deposits from students attending the trip. Airlines require an exact number of passengers flying when booking a group reservation and we are given a 2-week window pay the \$50 per ticket deposit. Airlines require the deposit to be paid with a credit card as well as the remaining balance typically due in February prior to the trip. We plan to use American Airlines. American Airlines has direct flights to and from Reagan National Airport. Due to the size of our group, we typically fly on two separate flights. The students and chaperones are split evenly so this has not been an issue.

Upon arrival to Reagan National Airport, we will use the DC Metro for transportation to our hotel and throughout our trip for getting around the city. Students will receive a DC metro card as part of their package. This card is an unlimited short trip card.

We plan to stay at Hilton Garden Inn in Arlington, Virginia. This hotel is located close to the Courthouse metro station. We stayed at Hilton Garden Inn last year. Their staff was very accommodating, and the hotel was in a safe and secure location. This hotel is located near the Courthouse metro station, close to restaurants we will eat dinner at, and they provide a hot breakfast every morning for our students and chaperones.

The cost of each student is approximately \$1150. This includes airfare, hotel for 5 nights, breakfast, dinner, DC Metro pass, and all additional activities. The following is an estimate breakdown of trip expenses based on our 2024 numbers. Please understand airline rates can fluctuate as well as hotel cost. The costs listed include the cost to cover chaperones trip as well. This is based on 100 students going on trip with 10 chaperones.



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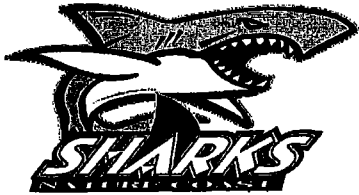
Hotel room	@ \$428.20
Flight	@ \$492.16
Metro Cards	@ \$43.33
Dinners	@ \$150.00
Sponsorship shirts	@ \$20.00
Total estimated cost of trip	@ \$1133.69

We project this number to fluctuate up or down and exact numbers cannot be determined until several factors are put into place such as exact # of students attending, # of hotel rooms needed, cost of flights, etc. Charging \$1150 gives us wiggle room with potential change in price with hotel or airfare.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in fundraising opportunities throughout the school year to raise money to help pay for their trips. Every year we have several students who can fundraise for the entire cost of their trip. We have an amazing network of people and businesses who are willing to step in to help offset costs for students who are struggling to pay for the trip.

We plan to visit the following places while in DC.

- Arlington National Cemetery where students will get to witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They will visit John F. Kennedy's gravesite where the eternal flame is burning. They will also get to tour Robert E. Lee's home which sits at the top of the hill in Arlington Cemetery.
- We will take a tour of the US Capitol Building and hopefully get to see a session in congress.
- We will walk the various monuments along the National Mall after sundown to see them lit up. We will visit the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, World War II Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Jefferson Memorial and Martin Luther King Memorial.
- Students will have several opportunities to visit the many museums along the National Mall at their leisure. A few favorites are always the Air & Space Museum and Natural History Museum.
- We will tour the Library of Congress. Students can obtain an actual library card to the Library of Congress.
- We will visit and tour the US National Holocaust Museum.
- We will visit and tour the US African American Museum.
- For the first time in 2024 – we were approved to go inside the White House. This credit goes to a former Hernando High School student who now works in DC!



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- National Zoo – The pandas left in December 2023 to go back to China. Rumor has it that China will be sending a new set of pandas, and they should be there by 2025!!
- 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon – Although these students did not personally experience 9/11/2001 – many of our students walk away from the memorial crying. It is beautifully done with an audio tour recounting that day at the Pentagon and makes a huge impact on our students every year.

Upon approval of the trip, we will be able to provide the following:

- List of seniors attending the trip will be given as we get close to trip. The list of students going will fluctuate as some will drop out and others will take their spots. The most accurate list will be a few weeks prior to trip.
- Airline information with flight numbers – available in June – but flight times usually change in January as airline updates flights.
- Chaperones attending.
- Any additional information needed will be provided.

Please let us know if we need to provide any further information. Thank you again for allowing this opportunity to continue for our Seniors.

Thank you,

Tara Ferlita
Senior Class Sponsor