Grade 8 Overnight Trip Information

Research and experience tell us that off-campus, hands-on experiences when students go away together to cooperate over a period of days, significantly adds to their middle years’ experience. Staying overnight bonds students, allows them to explore curricular topics in great depth, and allows them to develop perspectives and connections that add immeasurably to the classroom experience.

8th grade is a time of increased opportunity, autonomy and leadership. Student voice and choice, and student designed and led activities are a big part of the 8th grade experience. In our efforts to better reflect this philosophy, the 8th grade overnight trip will actually be 4 separate theme-based trips that the students will both help design and choose from. The overall program is called ”SEEK.” It is our goal that all students go on their 1st or 2nd trip choice. The trips will last 3 full days and 2 nights and will occur in September. We are all very excited about this new venture. The cost of the trips is included in your tuition.

The 2016-2017 school year marked change in our overnight trips for the 8th graders. We decided to open up our trip options in order to better meet the interests and passions of all of our students/teachers. This year we are planning four separate simultaneous trips with diverse itineraries to Lake Placid, NY, Montreal, Canada, Washington, D.C., and Boston, MA. Our main focus is celebration, challenge, choice, learning and fun. By all accounts, the trips have been a huge success. Students on committees helped plan and organize the trips, and along with 3 faculty members and a guide, 20-25 students attend each trip. We are excited to offer these trips to the Class of 2024, and will reach out for student leaders to help in the planning in September.

The 7th and 6th grades both have their overnight trips in the week of September 25th, and so we will do the same again this year, with a focus on leadership development for the new 8th graders. Our goals are challenge, new connections, learning, and fun. So, please mark your calendars (much more information to follow over the summer and early fall.) The overnight trips for 8th graders will occur from September 25th - September 27th.

You will receive more detailed information from James Aitken, the 8th Grade Dean as the year progresses.