



March 4, 2011

Evergreen Public Schools

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The safety of our students is the highest priority in Evergreen Public Schools. Therefore, I am writing you regarding your son or daughter's upcoming trip to New York, NY, to the Heritage Music Festival. As you and your child prepare for the trip, I want to take a moment to share with you some considerations regarding this trip. Given the situation in Iraq and the increased potential for terrorist activities around the world, I am sure you have given thought to your child's safety while traveling. The school board and I share your concerns.

Superintendents and school boards throughout the nation are wrestling with the question of whether or not students should be permitted to travel out of state under the current circumstances. This is an important trip; one that you and your child have worked hard to afford. It will provide many once-in-a-lifetime learning and performing opportunities. However, it is essential to examine the risks involved in travel in this time of uncertainty.

The school board continues to cautiously approve of this student travel, provided that the Homeland Security National Threat Level does not rise above the orange level. While there is some risk involved, we believe that it is reasonable to allow students to continue with the travel they have planned, provided that the parent/guardian has considered all of the circumstances and has provided written permission.

I encourage you to discuss this topic with your son or daughter. We do not want to unnecessarily alarm anyone, but it is important to have realistic discussions about the risks of travel at this time. It is also important that we give you accurate information about the district's insurance coverage as you consider your child's participation in the trip. The district does not purchase or have medical/dental/hospitalization insurance to cover injuries to, or losses of life of, pupils, or to indemnify parents for related expenses. Such insurance, if desired, must be purchased by the parent or guardian.

Should you have any questions, please contact Greg Anderson at Biggs Insurance (695-3301). Mr. Anderson serves as the school district's insurance broker. If you continue to approve of your child's participation in the trip, please sign below and return this permission slip to Mikkel Iverson by March 23, 2011. **Students without this signed permission/release will not be permitted to take the trip to New York.** Thank you.

Sincerely,

Theodore Feller

Director of Secondary Education

I give my student, _____, permission to go on this trip to

Student's Name

New York, NY from March 30 to April 4, 2011.

Parent Signature

Date