

From: The Alameda Close Up Club

Date: March 2, 2015

To: The AUSD School Board

Alameda Close Up Club leaders have brought Alameda eighth graders to Washington, D.C. for the past fifteen years. We would like to continue this tradition so that we can educate and inspire young people to participate in our democracy.

The Close Up Foundation website states: "We believe that a strong democracy requires active and informed participation by all citizens; therefore we seek to reach participants of every race, creed, geographical community, socio-economic level, and academic standing. To carry out our mission, we partner with educators, schools, and youth organizations throughout the country to help young people develop the skills and attitudes to become informed and engaged citizens."

This year's participants from Lincoln Middle School, Junior Jets, Wood Middle School, NEA, and The Academy of Alameda will have the unique opportunity to learn firsthand about the workings of the government and the responsibilities they hold as citizens of the United States when they travel to Washington D.C. for Close Up's Capital Experience from May 14-22, 2015.

This educational program is run by teachers from Lincoln Middle School, Junior Jets and NEA in collaboration with the Close-Up Foundation, the nation's largest civic education organization. The trip consists of activities designed to introduce students to the history, politics, and culture of our nation's capitol. We accomplish this through small group seminars and workshops, meetings with our Congressional representative, museum, monument visits and more. Students and teachers will return from our Nation's capital with renewed excitement and increased knowledge - both invaluable assets to the classroom and community.

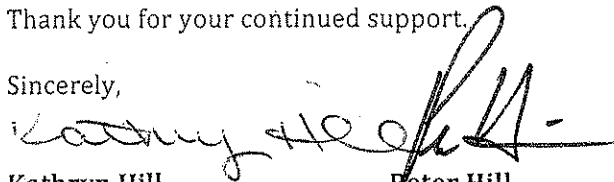
The program cost for each student, including instruction, travel, expenses, meals, and lodging is \$2672.00. For some students to meet this cost, it is necessary to seek financial help. We are dedicated to making this invaluable educational experience available to all students regardless of their financial ability.

Your approval will be an investment in our community's future, helping students to become more informed and responsible citizens as well as giving teachers the tools necessary to provide students with the best education available.

If you have any questions or need further information concerning Close Up's Capital Experience please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Hill
Lincoln Middle School
8th Grade Core Teacher
510-748-4018 x 1828

Peter Hill
Lincoln Middle School
8th Grade Core Teacher
510-748-4018 x 1826



Kevin Gorham
Encinal Jets & Junior Jets
Assistant Principal
510-748-4023 x 3103

E-3A Out of State Field Trip Request Form

Enrichment Trip Notification – Alameda Unified School District Our Fourteenth Year Taking Students to D.C.

Date Request Sent: January 13, 2015

Date of Field Trip: May 14-22, 2015

Schools: Lincoln Middle, Wood Middle,
Alameda Academy, NEA,
Junior Jets

Lead Teachers: Kathryn Hill
Peter Hill
Kevin Gorham

Teacher's Cell: Kathryn Hill 510-851-0623
Peter Hill 510-390-1855
Kevin Gorham 510-387-5406

Teacher School Phone: 510-748-4018 x 1828
510-748-4018 x 1826
510-748-4023

Destination: Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, University of Virginia, Monticello, Charlottesville, VA,
Colonial Williamsburg

Number of Miles: 3,000 each way

Number of Students: 101

Date & Time of Departure: May 14 (red-eye flight)

Date & Time of Return: May 22

Number of Chaperones: 8 + Multiple Personal Instructors provided by the Close Up Foundation

Lodging: Hotel in Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area **Contact:** To be determined

Instructional Purpose:

Students will have a great opportunity to learn firsthand about the workings of the government and the responsibilities they hold as citizens of the United States when they travel to Washington, D.C. for Close Up's Capital Experience. This exciting and unique program, run by the Close Up Foundation, the nation's largest civic education organization, consists of activities designed to introduce students to the history, politics, and culture of the nation's capital. From small-group seminars and workshops to meetings with congressional members and staff, lobbyists, and embassy officials to study visits of museums and monuments, this program offers students an insider's view of our history and government. Not only does this program offer students an insider's view of our history and government, but it includes separate programming for teachers, giving them a chance to share ideas with other educational professionals from across the country. Educators also attend seminars and workshops of their choice, updating and enhancing their American History and Civics curricula. Both students and teachers alike will return from Washington with renewed excitement and increased knowledge – both invaluable assets to the classroom environment.

Standards Addressed

U.S.8.3: Students understand the foundations of the American political system and the ways in which citizens participate in it.

U.S. 8.3.6: Describe the basic law-making process and how the Constitution provides numerous opportunities for citizens to participate in the political process and to monitor and influence government (e.g., function of elections, political parties, interest groups).

U.S. 8.3.7: Understand the functions and responsibilities of a free press.

Pre-Activities: Weekly and monthly meetings that focus on the above standards. The meetings also develop schema for the locations visited and experiences they will participate in. Students participate in group projects, lecture, games, etc..

Post Activities: The students are required to complete two notebooks on this trip to satisfy the history requirements. One notebook is created by the Alameda Close Up Club staff and the other is created by the Close-Up Foundation.

Exclusions: We reserve the right to exclude students from participating in the trip for behavior issues. The situation is on a case by case basis. Due to the nature of this unique experience students must demonstrate a high level of responsibility and independence before the trip. Student who are not meeting the behavior requirements, will be given a written warning and parent signature. The next infraction results in the student being removed from the trip. The chaperones are limited to the teachers who volunteer to help run the program. Parents do not chaperone.

Provisions for Students not

Participating: This trip is an enrichment trip and many students choose not to participate, however, it is open to all eighth grade students in the Alameda Unified School District. This year, Lincoln, Wood, Academy of Alameda, NEA and Junior Jets have elected to participate in this enrichment experience.

To help supplement the overall trip expense, each site provides a fundraising opportunity for the students to raise some or all of their trip expenses. In addition, we do our best to find money for students who want to go, but financially cannot afford to travel.

Students not attending will continue with their regular school program.

Transportation Method:

Commercial Airlines & Chartered Busses

Trip Costs Paid By:

The individual trip participants

Transportation Company:**Commercial Airline:**

To Be Determined

Chartered Bus Company:

Quick's Bus Company
2309 Poplar Street
Staunton, Virginia 24401
1-800-572-4044
Fax: 540-886-3560

Itinerary: Subject to Change

ALAMEDA CLOSE UP CLUB ITINERARY

The first three days and the last day in Washington, D.C are created and lead by the Alameda Close Up teachers. The remaining days are lead by the Close Up Foundation and their team of Personal Instructors (PIs). **The itinerary is subject to change – travel days require flexibility.**

Thursday, May 14, 2015
Leadership

Alameda Close Up Teacher

Depart: Red-eye to Washington, D.C.

Friday, May 15, 2015
Leadership

Alameda Close Up Teacher

Visit: U.S. Capitol Tour
The Newseum: First Amendment and the Press
White House Tour

Hotel: Debriefing; Discuss Saturday's Plans: **Early Bedtime! Go To Sleep!**

Saturday, May 16, 2015
Leadership

Alameda Close Up Teacher

Depart: 5:00 a.m. Breakfast; 6:00 a.m. departure

Arrive: 9:00 a.m. Charlottesville, Virginia

Visit: Tour Monticello (Jefferson's Home) and do a site-study. Eat lunch at the base of "Little Mountain."

University of Virginia Informal Tour Visit

Return: Washington, D.C. Metro Area

Hotel: Debriefing, Discuss Sunday's excursion. **Early Bedtime!**

Sunday, May 17, 2015

Alameda Close Up Teacher Leadership

Depart: 5:00 a.m. Breakfast; 6:00 a.m. departure

Visit: Independence Hall
National Constitution Museum
Ben Franklin's Workshop
Liberty Bell
University of Pennsylvania
Run the Rocky Steps

Philly Cheesesteaks!!

Return: 6:30 p.m. **The Official Close Up Program begins.** Upon return, students will eat at a large banquet with all participants. They will be assigned a Close Up Program Instructor (PI) and they will be with this instructor until Thursday morning. Alameda students will meet participants from other schools.

The Alameda Close Up Club teachers resume leadership on the following Saturday morning. We participate in the Close Up teacher program.

Monday, May 18-22

Close Up Foundation Leads This Portion
Fly Home on Friday, May 22, 2015

Lead Teachers:

Print Name: KATHRYN HILL Date: 2-7-15

Signature:  Date: 2/7/15

Print Name: PETER HILL Date: 2-7-15

Signature:  Date: 2-7-15

Print Name: KEVIN GORHAM Date: 2-7-15

Signature:  Date: 2-7-15

Administrative Approval:

Print Name: Kevin Gorham Date: 2-7-15

Signature:  Date: 2-7-15