

January 18, 2010

Dear Wind Ensemble Parents,

The Wind Ensemble trip to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho is a few months away. As we mentioned in the *Save the Date* letter sent to parents in November, the musicians will attend the *Music in the Parks* festival over the May 21-23 weekend. This festival is a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the school year, and for many students, the end of three years of musical experiences with the Eckstein band.

Itinerary: On the reverse of this sheet is a draft of the itinerary for the trip. The competition will take place on Saturday, May 22. The band will play for adjudicators in the morning at Coeur D'Alene high school, and attend *Music in the Parks* activities after lunch at the Silverwood amusement park. On this day, the park will be open only to schools participating in the *Music in the Parks* festival. The musicians will have several hours to enjoy the rides and attractions at the park, before gathering for dinner and an awards ceremony.

Trip Details: Transportation will be provided by the Starline Luxury Coaches. We will be traveling on three, well-chaperoned buses for the 6 hours drive. Students will sleep four to a room and they will have a chance to request roommate preferences. Most of the student rooms will have a king-size bed with a queen fold-out couch. Sleeping bags will be optional, if students feel more comfortable using these on top of the beds. Each student will be asked to sign an agreement of behavior at the time of the final payment for the trip, as we do expect responsible and mature behavior from all students.

Cost: The cost of the trip will be approximately \$250 per student and each adult chaperone. Scholarship funds are available. In order to make necessary reservations for the trip, we need a complete list of students attending. Please submit a non-refundable deposit from each student and chaperone who intend to go by January 25, 2010. The final balance for the trip will be due in mid-March. We are fortunate to have arranged for exceptional and safe accommodations and activities for the weekend in Coeur d'Alene, at a very reasonable rate.

Online forms: Please note that all forms related to the Wind Ensemble trip are located on the Eckstein band website (<http://www.ecksteineagles.org/sites/band/Ecksteinforms.html>). The *Save the Date* letter that was sent to parents in November is located on this website, as will all future correspondence. This website also contains information for those parents considering participating as chaperones.

Chaperones: In order to ensure a ratio of one chaperone to eight musicians, we are planning to have 16 chaperones participate on the trip. Several parents have already indicated interest in traveling as chaperones. Please note that chaperones will have a full set of responsibilities in guiding and monitoring the students. They will share rooms and will be located on the same floor in the hotel as the students. If you are considering this commitment, please read the document *Thinking of Being a Chaperone?* on the Eckstein band website; note that all chaperones will undergo routine screening procedures as mandated by the school district. In the next few months, we will hold several meetings to fully explain all responsibilities. If you are interested in participating as a chaperone, please indicate this on the attached form and send in a deposit of \$80 (\$40 for the student and \$40 for the adult).

PLEASE RETURN the attached form by Monday, January 25. Your child should drop this form off in the band room mailbox. Thanks to all!

Parent trip coordinators -

Sylvia Sargeant
chezsarge@comcast.net
206-729-8030

Ina Gylys-Colwell
inagc@gchouse.org
206-522-4841

Wind Ensemble
Music in the Parks Festival
Friday, May 21th - Sunday, May 23rd

Trip Itinerary
DRAFT as of 1/8/10

FRIDAY, May 21th

- 7:50am** **Arrive Eckstein**
Find your assigned chaperone for loading instructions
- 8:30** **Load buses & depart Eckstein**
- 10:30** **Rest stop near pass**
- 12:00pm** **Eat sack lunch from home at rest stop**
- 3:30** **Arrive in Coeur D'Alene, outdoor play time & snacks**
McEuen Field (park directly adjacent to the hotel with sport fields, hiking trails, & gazebo)
420 E Front Street
<http://parks.cdaid.org>
- 4:45** **Check into hotel rooms & clean up for dinner**
The Coeur d'Alene Resort
115 S. 2nd St., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
208-765-4000
www.cdaresort.com
- 5:30** **Proceed to dinner boat adjacent to the hotel**
Boat is Coast Guard approved
www.cdaresort.com/activities/lake_cruises
- 6:00-8:00** **Dinner boat cruise**
Menu: Hamburgers/hot dogs/vegetarian, French fries, cookie, hot chocolate
- 8:15-9:30** **Wind-down time at the hotel**
- 10:30pm** **Lights OUT!**

SATURDAY, May 22nd *Note: Music in Parks has not yet posted Sat. schedule*

- 7:00am** **Wake-up call**
- 7:30-8:45** **Breakfast buffet in hotel**
Menu: hot/cold cereals, bagels, mini Danish, country bread, juices
- 9:00** **Load buses**
- 9:30-12:00** **Wind Ensemble performance at Coeur d'Alene High School**
- 12:00pm** **Lunch at performance site**
- 12:30** **Leave for Silverwood Theme Park**
27843 North Highway 95, Athol, ID 83801
208-683-3400
www.silverwoodthemepark.com
- 4:00** **Picnic dinner** (Pavilions # tba)
- 6:00** **Awards ceremony** (Pavilions # tba)
- 8:15-9:30** **Wind-down time at the hotel**
- 10:30pm** **Lights OUT!**

SUNDAY, May 23rd

- 7:30 am** **Wake-up call**
- 8:00-9:15** **Breakfast buffet in hotel**
- 9:30** **Check out of the hotel and load buses**
- 12:00** **Lunch along the way** (use own money)
- 4:30p** **Arrive at Eckstein**

Transportation: Starline Luxury Coaches (<http://www.starlinetransportation.com>)
Parent coordinators: Ina Gylys-Colwell (inagc@gchouse.org) & Sylvia Sargeant (chezsarge@comcast.net)

**** PLEASE DETACH and RETURN this FORM to the band room mail box by Monday, January 25! ****

Please indicate your plans for the *Music in the Parks* trip to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Important notes:

- All deposits are **non-refundable**.
- All deposits will be subtracted from the total due.
- Checks can be made payable to "Eckstein Band"; write "Silverwood" on the memo line.
- Please be as accurate as possible in your replies below, as we need to start paying invoices soon!

Student's name: _____
(last name) (first name)

Please check all that apply:

- Yes, my child will participate in the Silverwood trip. Enclosed is a trip deposit of \$40.
- Yes, my child will participate in the Silverwood trip. Enclosed is a trip deposit of \$40. I am requesting scholarship assistance with the balance. I plan to pay \$_____ for the trip by mid-March, but will need assistance with the remainder.
- No, my child is not able to participate in the band trip this year.
- I am interested in participating as a chaperone. I have read the document *Thinking of Being a Chaperone?* on the Eckstein band website. Enclosed is a chaperone deposit of \$40 (for a total of \$80, including the \$40 deposit for your child).

Chaperone name: _____ Circle one: Male / Female

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Cell phone: _____ Email address: _____

- I am enclosing \$_____ as a donation toward trip scholarships for those needing assistance.
- I can donate snacks, water bottles, drinks, fruit and other non-perishable items for the trip. (*Many parents already responded to this in the November letter --- Thanks!*)
- My child has a nut allergy, medical condition, or a special consideration of which the trip organizers should be aware in planning snacks and activities. Briefly describe in the space below (full medical information will be collected closer to trip date).

Please list any comments, special considerations, or concerns in the space below or reverse side.

Most families provided us with contact information in response to the letter sent in November. If you have not already done so, please provide the following information in the space below: parents' name, email address, home phone. You can also email this information to ecksteinwinds@gmail.com. Thanks!

**** PLEASE DETACH and RETURN this FORM to the band room mail box by Monday, January 25! ****