

Field Trip Proposal/Action Plan:

The Problem:

▶ The PTA at the New Brighton Area Elementary school does not have enough of money to fund the 5th grade field trip to the Pittsburgh Voyager.

The Solution:

▶ Each 5th grade class will hold a fundraiser to raise money to pay for the trip. Each student will be given a goal amount to reach. This amount will pay for their trip and transportation onboard the Voyager.

Important Information:

▶ The 5th grade team of teachers will use the attached PowerPoint presentation to present the information to the School Board and Superintendent. The School Board will have to approve our action plan.

▶ After the fundraiser is approved; the 5th grade teachers and the PTA president will pick a fundraiser and determine the goal amount to be raised by each student. They will also create a letter to inform the parents about the importance of the fundraiser. A field trip meeting will also be held to inform the parents of the fundraiser.

Answer to questions that could be asked at the School Board Meeting:

- 1. What will happen to the students who don't turn in anything from the fundraiser?*

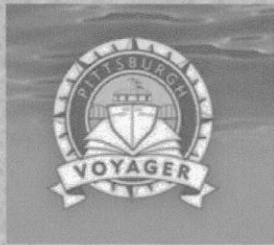
The PTA has some money in their budget to fund a small amount of students who don't turn in anything. We are hoping that every student participates. Parents will also have the option to pay the goal amount if they don't want their child to participate. We will ask the school district if they could fund some of the money if the PTA budget doesn't cover the entire trip. If the fundraiser is not a success and the PTA/School District can not fund the rest of the trip - the trip will be cancelled! We will use the money that is raised to plan another 5th grade field trip that will cover the cost that is raised!

- 2. Where will the fundraiser come from?*

We will work closely with the PTA to come up with an excellent fundraiser. They have some different ideas in mind already. For example, candy sale around Easter time, sub/pizza sale, or a candle/gift wrap fundraiser. They have worked with several different companies that give a good profit back.

Field Trip Proposal

The Pittsburgh Voyager



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5th Grade Teacher
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What Is The Problem?

- For the past 2 years all of the 5th grade students at the New Brighton Area School District have attended a field trip onboard the Pittsburgh Voyager.
- Due to lack of interest in our schools PTA program, students may not have this opportunity to attend the field trip for the 2004 - 2005 school year.
- The PTA has paid for the field trip in the past and they don't have the money to fund the trip this year.

Why Is The Pittsburgh Voyager Important To 5th Grade?

1. The 5th grade team of teachers have created a Unit Plan aligned with the PA Academic Standards. The Unit Plan uses the classroom teacher manual from the Voyager. It also has a variety of lessons plans created by the 5th grade team. This Unit Plan is a 8 week long Unit used to prepare each class for the field trip.
2. A "Captain's Chest" is provided by the Pittsburgh Voyager. This "Captain's Chest" is used throughout the Unit. It contains materials that are needed to complete the unit and also to prepare the students for the voyage.
****If we don't attend the field trip - we will not receive the Chest!****
3. The district has already invested a lot of time and money into this field trip. The entire 5th grade team (7 teachers) has received 2 days of training for the field trip.

What Do The Students Learn About?

Please reference the Pittsburgh Voyager Manual and the 5th grade Unit Plan that I provided you with. Thank You!

BEFORE THE TRIP:

Lessons are included in the manual provided by the Voyager and in the Unit created by the 5th grade teachers.

1. Rivers, Boats, and Navigation
2. River Food Chains and Webs
3. River Biology -
 - A. Algae/Plankton
 - B. Macroinvertebrates
 - C. Fish
 - D. Birds and Waterfowl
4. River Chemistry
 - A. Temperature
 - B. pH
 - C. Turbidity
 - D. Dissolved Oxygen
 - E. Nitrates, Phosphates, Iron
5. Docking
 - A. Data Analysis
 - B. Further Investigations

All lessons are aligned With the PA Academic Standards. Please See the Standard worksheet provided by the Voyager.

What Do The Students Learn About?

Please reference the Brief Overview worksheet provided by the Pittsburgh Voyager. Thank You!

On the Field Trip:

The field trip is 4.5 hours long. Students will pack a lunch and eat lunch on the boat. (The NBSD cafeteria will provide the students with a free packed lunch if they can not afford to pack their own lunch)

1. Begin the day by choosing 1 of 3 hypotheses.
2. Students will rotate through three 20 minute mini-stations:
 - A. Fish School/River Continuum
 - B. Watersheds
 - C. Birds
3. Students will participate in three 50 minute hands-on activities:
 - A. Water Chemistry
 - B. Plankton
 - C. Macroninvertebrates
4. Warp up the day by comparing their hypothesis from the beginning of the day to the data they gathered in the hands-on activities.

We Need Your Help!

This field trip is very important to the 5th grade students and teachers at New Brighton Elementary! The Pittsburgh Voyager provides a field trip that is very unique! This is an educational field trip where the students have hands-on experiences. They will have the opportunity to use the information they have learned in the classroom in real life situations. Don't forget that the information that is covered is aligned with the PA Academic Standards and it is part of our 5th Grade Science Curriculum!

WILL YOU HELP US?

Here Is The Plan:

• The cost of the trip is \$725, \$850, or \$975 per class depending on your school's state aid ratio and scholarship availability. We also would have to pay for busing from the elementary school to the Carnegie Science Center for 4 separate days.

7 classrooms x \$725 per class = \$5,075 + busing

Where will we get the money?

• If the school district does not have the money in the budget to fund the trip - Each homeroom classroom will have a fundraiser. Every student in the 5th grade will participate. A letter will be sent home explaining the reason behind the fundraiser. The letter will include a goal for each student to reach. Their goal amount will pay for their trip on the Voyager. Parents will also have the option of paying the amount if they do not want their child to participate in the fundraiser. We are hoping that each student will reach their goal and it will cover the cost of the field trip and the busing!

The Pittsburgh Voyager



For more information on the Pittsburgh Voyager visit –
www.pittsburghvoyager.org

The Future Is In Your Hands!