

End of Year Trip for 8th Graders - Information Letter

2025-2026

New York City and Washington, D.C.

Raa Middle School's annual end-of-year trip for 8th-grade students is a time-honored tradition. The trip allows them to expand their knowledge of key United States government institutions, monuments, and memorials in Washington, DC. Additionally, as a Performing Arts Magnet school, students will have a chance to experience first-hand the nation's premier cultural performing arts center by touring sites in New York City.

The New York/Washington trip begins on **Sunday, March 22, 2026 - Saturday, March 28, 2026. We will depart on March 22nd from Raa's bus ramp at 12:00 pm and return to Raa on March 28th arriving around 6:00 am.** This trip will be limited to 120 students. Spots will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis when students pay their initial non-refundable deposit. Once these spaces are filled up, we cannot secure another bus.

Payment / Information



- To receive text updates about payment dates, trip information, and status reports while we are on the trip, sign-up for ***Remind*** for the ***Raa NYC/DC*** trip, text the message **@26raa8trip to 81010** (see picture).

- On **August 20, 2025**, we will hold a **Virtual Parent Meeting** to discuss the trip. The meeting will begin at **6:00 pm through Zoom**. If you are interested in the trip or have any questions, please make plans to attend this meeting.

- The **New York/Washington** trip will cost each student **\$1,522.00**. Itemized per person costs are as follows:
 - **Transportation cost** **\$469.56**
 - **Hotels (with security)** **\$328.60**
 - **Meals** **\$303.15**
 - **Tickets, activities, & materials** **\$420.69**
- Families will pay for the trip through the eFunds for School online payment system. The eFunds system offers convenience like other online banking services. Additional details will be shared during the first parent meeting on **August 20, 2025**.
- Trip payments can be broken down as follows:
 - **Deposit (non-refundable) of \$306 on Tuesday, September 30th**
 - **2nd payment of \$304 on Friday, October 31st**
 - **3rd payment of \$304 on Monday, December 1st**
 - **4th payment of \$304 on Monday, January 5th**
 - **5th (final) payment of \$304 on Monday, February 2nd**
 - **If preferred, parents/guardians are welcome to pay for the trip in one lump sum of \$1,522.**

- Trip payments will be **accepted beginning Tuesday, September 30, 2025, through the eFunds for School system.** Information regarding payment through eFunds for School will be distributed during the first parent meeting.
- Students **must submit** their **Aktivate (online activity form) and Behavior Contract** on the date of their first payment (will be distributed before deposit due date). Completed forms may be given to their Social Studies teacher or Mrs. Williams in Student Services.
- If minimal funds remain after all expenses have been paid, any remaining funds will be spent on miscellaneous end of year activities that directly benefit your child.
- **\$610.00** of student fees will be non-refundable after **October 31, 2025.** After the deposit and expenses are paid, the district cannot recover this non-refundable amount to issue student refunds. If the non-refundable portion of the student fee was used to purchase tangible items (T-shirts, tickets, etc.) for your student, those items will be provided to your child.
- Trip details and rooming information will be sent home through Social Studies classes and announced during lunch.

Trip Coordinators

Brynn Wallace - Brynn.Wallace@leonschools.net

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Zoom Meeting Link

**[https://leonschools-
net.zoom.us/j/83036928314](https://leonschools-net.zoom.us/j/83036928314)**

Meeting ID: 830 3692 8314