

Dear St. Augustin 7th grade parents,

As one of your 7th grade homeroom moms, I'd like to invite you to an introductory meeting to discuss next year's 8th grade class trip. Dr. Dowdle can join us briefly before her board meeting on Tuesday, May 4th at 6:15 p.m. in the St. Augustin Parish Hall. Bring your ideas for potential trip sites and fund-raising.

A brief history for those who may not know: Over the last few years, the 8th grade class has had the opportunity to travel on an expanded 8th grade class trip. Traditionally, this trip has been a 4 to 5 day tour over a weekend to a variety of places from Boston to Washington D.C. to this year, Chicago. The trip is optional but almost all students attend. It is paid for by the student and parent chaperones that attend. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of fund-raising activities throughout the year to help defray the cost.

An additional note: It is customary for the 7th grade parents to provide the hospitality for the 8th grade graduation functions. After the meeting, I would like to invite parents interested in helping out with the upcoming graduation to stick around. This year's 8th grade graduation is Thursday, May 27th. On graduation day, the 8th graders do not attend class but instead go to the Church in the morning for a graduation practice and then onto the parish hall for lunch. The 7th graders with the teachers and administrators walk over from school and join the 8th graders for this final farewell lunch.

It has become a tradition for the 7th grade parents to pick a theme to make the 8th grade lunch a memorable, fun occasion for our graduating students and the future 8th graders! This year we have chosen the theme *Happy Trails...until we meet again*. Following our class trip meeting, we'd like to have a short meeting to discuss this lunch. Do not feel obligated, but this is actually a fun event to plan and put on for our 7th and 8th graders, and of course, many hands make light work! So...*Happy Trails to you...*

Until we meet again...

Marianne Dowd

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