

Walking Field Trip Permission

Student Name _____

Grade _____ Homeroom/Division _____

The education of children is not confined to the four walls of the classroom. From time to time, teachers find opportunities to enhance student learning by taking their students on walking field trips outside of the classroom. The purpose of this consent is to seek your consent to allow your child's teacher to take your child with them/their classes out of doors and off the school site to walk to various destinations within the school neighborhood.

These "walking field trips" may be spontaneous, taking advantage of the weather or to collect or see something in the neighbourhood, and may also occur on a regular basis. Such field trips may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Environmental clean-up
- Sketching classes
- Science walks using senses to observe seasonal changes
- Engaging in a scavenger hunt in a neighbourhood park
- Collecting fall leaves for science or art
- Adopting a tree, or square meter of forest
- Use of a local community playing field, park, or tennis court
- Environmental enhancement (e.g. gardening)
- Walks or runs for physical education classes
- Walking to a neighboring school for various purposes

Supervision

The teacher or staff member will supervise walking field trips. However, students may engage in some independent activities and may not be directly supervised at all times. The degree of independence will be based on the students' age. Secondary school students are expected to exercise a high degree of personal responsibility. Younger students may be required to walk with the teacher(s). Depending on the grade level and the nature of the activity, additional supervision may be provided by teachers, school aides or parents/guardians to meet the supervision requirements outlined in our District Field Trips policy and procedures. At all times, teachers will endeavor to ensure the safety of students during the walking field trip.

Risk Reduction

Although walking field trips are considered low risk for accidents or personal injury to students, there are risks that could occur, including falling, danger from cars, and not following teacher instructions/directions, etc. However, classroom teachers will discuss behavioral expectations with students and take the appropriate safety precautions before embarking on the walking field trip to minimize risk and to enhance the safety of each student. First aid packs and cellular phones or walkie-talkies are taken or easily accessed on walking field trips in case of an emergency. Students Emergency Procedure Plans/medical supplies will be brought for students with life-threatening medical conditions (e.g. anaphylaxis).



While on any field trip, it is important that students remember they are on a school outing and that behavioral expectations are consistent with all school rules.

Because these walking field trips are sometimes impromptu in nature, the school is seeking, in advance, informed consent for your child to participate in walking field trips within our school community. Your child's teacher may or may not provide you with notice in advance. These walking field trips are optional. Alternate arrangements will be made for students who do not participate.

Parent/Guardian Consent

I GIVE MY CONSENT. I understand the inherent risks associated with walking field trips and give my informed consent for my child to participate, for this school year, in walking field trips within the school community as outlined above. I am aware of the behavioral expectations of my child while participating in these field trips and that there may be consequences for non-compliance.

I DO NOT give permission for my child to participate in walking field trips for this school year. I understand that my child will be placed under the supervision of a district employee in the school building during any walking field trips.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date _____ Signature _____