

# WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Are cell phones permitted on the trip?

**YES**, students are permitted to have a cell phone

- ✓ to take pictures while touring
- ✓ to make a nightly call to parents
- ✓ to use on the bus trip

### When are cell phones restricted?

Cell phones will be restricted from 10:00 PM until breakfast the following morning.

Cell phones are restricted from texting and social media while touring.

### When can I expect a phone call from my student?

Students may call home in the evening from the hotel.

### Where is the group staying?

The Holiday Inn Express and Suites, 9020 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, MD

Hotel Phone Number is 301-441-8110

### Is there a day-time emergency contact number?

**YES**, Mrs. Feragne and Mrs. Maynard will have their cell phones. Please be respectful and call only in the case of an emergency. If phones are required to be turned off in certain buildings, a return phone call will be made as soon as possible.

Mrs. Feragne's cell phone number is 413-439-3476.

Mrs. Maynard's cell phone number is 413-218-4058.

### How will students be supervised?

Students will be accompanied by a chaperone at all times. They will not be permitted to leave the hotel for any reason, for any amount of time, without a chaperone. Students will be required to use the "buddy system" to go to the bathroom while touring with chaperones nearby at all times.

### What can students bring for entertainment?

Students can bring handheld PG or E video games; no other rated video games will be permitted. It will be the students' responsibility to keep track of their games/equipment. Students are **not to share** their music, movies, games, etc. as parents have different guidelines regarding what their children are permitted to play/watch. Students will be expected to respect these guidelines.

NO game systems that hook up to a television will be allowed in the hotel rooms. No movies will be allowed on the hotel televisions; the hotel will have that option removed from our rooms.

### What items are needed for the trip?

- ✓ A device for taking pictures
- ✓ Warm clothing - layers work best
- ✓ All students **MUST bring a winter coat, gloves or mittens, a scarf, and a hat** as the weather can get as low as 25 degrees with 15-20 mph winds. All clothing should be labeled with the student's name.
- ✓ A charging cable and plug
- ✓ **A bag lunch for the trip to Philadelphia on Tuesday**
- ✓ **Money (\$10.00) to purchase a meal on the trip home.** Money can be given to Mrs. Maynard to hold until the trip home. It must be in a sealed envelope with the student's name and amount clearly written on the front of the envelope.
- ✓ Spending money (if desired) for souvenirs and/or for the Pentagon City Mall

### What is the expected time the students will return to PVCA?

The plan is to arrive at PVCA around **11:00 – 11:30 PM on Saturday evening**. Parents will receive a one-call message when the bus is 35-45 minutes away from the school. Parents need to be at the school when the bus arrives.

### Will bags be searched while students are touring?

Bags may be searched and students may be required to go through metal detectors in most buildings.

## EXPECTED STUDENT CONDUCT

We represent not only Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, but also our Lord Jesus Christ. Students and chaperones are expected to dress in a manner that is neat, modest, and appropriate, and to behave in a manner that pleases our Lord.

**Students and parents are required to read the following guidelines before signing the parent and student contract agreement.**

1. Students are expected to remain on their assigned floors; boys and girls on separate floors.
2. Students are not permitted to leave their rooms between 10:00 PM and the scheduled morning breakfast time.
3. Students must limit shower time to 15 minutes. Hair and makeup need to be done in the room rather than the bathroom, allowing all students bathroom time.
4. Students are expected to get up with the hotel wake-up call.
5. Students are expected to be at breakfast at the designated time each day, accompanied by a chaperone.
6. Students are expected to be on time for all events as tardiness causes the entire group to be delayed.
7. Students are expected to attend a nightly debriefing/devotional time after dinner each evening. No student will be excused from attending this important part of the trip experience. Students must remain in proper attire for the debriefing/devotional time; pajamas are not permitted.
8. Students are expected to be in bed and lights out by 10:00 PM.
9. Students are not permitted to go anywhere without a chaperone.
10. Students are not permitted to use hotel phones. There is to be NO room-to-room calling.
11. Students should arrange a convenient time to call their parent(s) as they will only have the opportunity to call home in the evening from the hotel.
12. If a student does not have a cell phone, he/she will be permitted to use Mrs. Feragne's or Mrs. Maynard's cell phone to make a nightly call home.
13. ALL ELECTRONICS (including phones) will be collected nightly at 10:00 PM. Devices will be charged by the chaperones.
14. Students are not allowed to go to rest rooms alone while on tour. The student must be accompanied by another student and a chaperone must be within sight of the rest room being used.
15. Each chaperone is assigned five to six students for the entire trip. The students assigned to the chaperone are expected to ALWAYS be in the chaperone's view and voice range. No student, at any time, will be allowed to switch chaperones and join another group.
16. Students are expected to obey and be respectful to everyone- adults and students alike.
17. Foul language, suggestive language or gestures, disrespectful attitude, or any other behavior or language inappropriate for Christian young people will not be tolerated.

**If a student does not abide by the guidelines, disciplinary measures may include:**

1. Being reassigned to Mrs. Maynard for the remainder of the trip (as she will not have a group of students).
2. Additional disciplinary measures may be taken upon return to school.
3. Phone being taken if the student does not abide by the cell phone guidelines.
4. Serious or repeated infractions will result in the parents being called and arrangements made for the student's return to Springfield at the parents' expense.

## DRESS CODE

- ✓ Jeans, khakis, cargo pants (neat, not baggy)
  - No holes
  - Neat, clean
  - Not dragging on the ground
  - No frayed hems
- ✓ T-shirts, sweaters, long-sleeved shirts, etc.
- ✓ Neat, clean, appropriately sized sweatshirts (sports/team logos are allowed)
- ✓ Fleece vests and jackets are allowed and work well with layering
- ✓ Comfortable walking shoes (sneakers are probably best)
- ✓ Baseball hats may be worn, but must be removed upon entering a building
- ✓ All other school dress code rules apply, including those referring to jewelry, etc.
- ✓ NO sweatpants, flannel pants, or lounge wear **OUTSIDE** of the hotel
- ✓ Girls' tops must be modest- not form fitting, not showing skin at the waist when seated or moving around. The same attire is expected to be worn at the hotel.
- ✓ While touring, the students will go through many metal detectors, so they should not wear studded belts, large earrings, or anything that will set off metal detectors.

We are looking forward to an amazing, memorable trip to Washington D.C. We trust that the students will enjoy their time, create many memories, and learn about the history of our nation. It is important to note that at all times during the trip, students need to adhere to the guidelines stated above.

Parents and students are required to read, understand, and follow the guidelines for the trip. If, at any time, student behavior is in any way inappropriate or disrespectful, teachers will address the student and, if needed, possibly contact parents/guardians. If the student continues to not follow instructions or correction, parents will be responsible to make arrangements for the student to return home.

---

## STUDENT AGREEMENT

I have read and agree to abide by ALL rules, regulations, and restrictions imposed by Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, and the chaperones or tour guides. If any of these are broken, I understand that I may be sent home and my parents are responsible for all costs incurred should such action be necessary.

---

*Student Signature*

---

*Date*

## PARENT AGREEMENT

I have read and understand the expectations outlined above. I/we agree that our son/daughter will abide by ALL rules, regulations, and restrictions imposed by Pioneer Valley Christian Academy and the chaperones or tour guides. If any of these are broken, the student may be sent home and the parent(s) is/are responsible for all costs incurred should such action be necessary.

---

*Parent(s) Signature*

---

*Date*