

# Manitou Springs/Woodland Park

Fall Trip 2018

Ken, Annie, Lauren



Hello DMHS families! We are planning a fall advisement trip to the Colorado Springs area, about two hours south of Denver. We'll camp near Manitou Lake and take in some of the area's wonderful attractions, from hiking and camping to the Cave of the Winds and summiting the magnificent Pikes Peak.

The purpose of this trip is to strengthen the DMHS community and build students' adaptability, independence, collaboration, and communication. We will be staying in tents at a large campsite at the Pike Community Group Campground. Boys' and girls' tent areas will be separated.

We are leaving on Tuesday, August 21st and returning by the end of the school day on Thursday, August 23rd (in time for students who ride the bus). It is a two hour drive and we will be traveling in 12-passenger vans. We will be cooking our own meals at our campsite. Activities may include hiking around the reservoir, touring Cave of the Winds and the ropes course on site, taking the Pikes Peak Cog Rail to the top of the mountain, and taking part in activities researched and designed by students.

## Itinerary :

### Tuesday, August 21:

- 8:00- Students and prepare for departure
- 9:30- Leave for Pike Community Group Campground. The students should bring sack lunches and/or get a sack lunch from our hot lunch program.
- 10:30- Arrive at US Air Force Academy campus, take a brief guided tour
- 11:30- Lunch US Air Force Academy Picnic Area
- 1:00- Arrive at Pike Community campsite, set-up tents, hike around reservoir
- 5:00- Make dinner
- 6:00- Dinner and team-building games, chill time
- 10:00- Lights out

### Wednesday, August 22:

- 7:00- Wake up!
- 8:00- Make breakfast/prepare for lunches to be packed
- 9:00- Eat breakfast and pack sack lunches
- 9:30 - 11:30- Cave of the Winds ropes course
- 12:00- Picnic lunch in Manitou Springs
- 2:00- Explore Manitou Springs
- 4:00- Student-led activities
- 5:00- Make dinner
- 6:00- Dinner and team-building games
- 8:00- Star gazing/fire conversation
- 10:00- Lights out

### Thursday, August 23:

- 7:00 Wake up!
- 7:30 Breakfast prep
- 8:00 Quick breakfast, pack sack lunches
- 9:00 Drive up Pikes Peak
- 12:00 Picnic lunch
- 1:00 Student - led activities
- 3:00 Return to DMHS and unpack

## Important Details

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**Cost:** The cost of this trip is \$125 per person. However, it is really important to us that 100% of our students attend. Therefore, if full price is beyond your family's means at this time, please contribute whatever amount will work for your family. At a minimum, we hope that all families will be able to contribute the cost of food for their student for 3 days. Payments should be made to DMHS and given to Carol (our wonderful office support person) no later than August 21st (but preferably sooner).

**What To Bring:** Please review the packing list located with the trip forms.

**What Not To Bring:** The key purpose of this trip is building our Montessori student culture. Therefore, please *do not* send students with any electronic games, MP3 players, or phones.

**Communication:** Staff will have cell phones so that you can easily contact your child while he or she is on trip. Their phone numbers are:

Ken: 215-208-9659

Annie: 508-826-8149

Lauren : 616-990-4306

In addition, in case there is any problem with cell phone reception, the main number for the Pike Community Campground is 719-636-1602.

**Trip Forms:** The parent/guardian consent form along with other required DPS trip forms is included with this packet. Please fill out and return by Monday, August 20th.

**DMHS Trip Policy:** Taking extended day trips is a core part of our Montessori adolescent program. It is during these trips that our students learn problem solving, adaptability, key social skills and independence. In order to ensure the safety of all our students during an overnight trip, there are certain ground rules that must be followed in order to participate or remain on a trip. While on trip, students are still held to the same behavior standards as outlined in the DMHS Family and Student Handbook. If a student's behavior rises to the level that it is no longer emotionally or physically safe for

that student to be on trip, we will call to request that the student will need to be picked up by a guardian.