

Manitou Springs/Woodland Park

Fall Trip 2019

Jess & Michelle



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 20th and returning by the end of the school day on Thursday, August 22nd (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, and taking part in activities researched and designed by students.

Itinerary :

Tuesday, August 20:

- 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.
- 10:45- Stop for lunch and a short hike at Garden of the Gods.
- 1:30- Arrive at Pike Community campsite and establish site ground rules.
- 1:45- Unload and set-up tents
- 2:45- Community games and walk around reservoir
- 5:00- Make dinner
- 7:00- Dinner and team-building games, chill time
- 9:30- In tents
- 10:00- Lights out

Wednesday, August 21:

- 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
- 9:30- In tents
- 10:00- Lights out

Thursday, August 22:

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

Important Details

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 to 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. Students are also not allowed to bring pocket knives, lighters, or other common camping gear that would not be allowed in a school environment. Adults will provide access to these camping tools as needed.

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:

Jess: 720-232-8584

Michelle: 720-401-4722

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 19th.**

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 be picked up by a guardian.

