

# Polar Star Inn and Siepel Hut Trip

## Leah's Advisement Fall 2019



Hello DMHS families!

We are planning a three-day trip to the 10th Mountain Division Huts, the Polar Star Inn and Siepel Huts, near Leadville, CO.

The purpose of this trip is to strengthen the DMHS community and build students' adaptability, independence, collaboration, and communication. Students will be sleeping in communal rooms in the hut (with the guides as well), and mattresses are provided. There is full kitchen with gas stoves and solar electricity for lights only.

We are leaving in the morning on Wednesday, August 14th and returning by the end of the school day on Friday, August 16th (in time for students who ride the bus). It is a 3 hour, 20 minute drive and we will be traveling in four wheel drive suburbans. Students will be cooking our meals, serving each other, and cleaning up afterwards. *Please note that there will be a ¼ mile hike to the cabins! Pack accordingly.*

Activities will include hiking a quarter mile to the hut, exploring the area, playing games, and building community.

### **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. Payments should be made to DMHS and given to Carol by August 13, 2018.

**What To Bring and What NOT to Bring:** Please review the packing list located with the trip forms. 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 contact your child while he or she is on trip, if necessary.

Leah: 303-842-6251

Lake County Sheriff - (in emergency only, if staff cannot be reached) - 719-486-1249

**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. However, in order to insure 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. Students while on trip 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, then the student will be removed from the trip and sent home.

### **Itinerary (Draft):**

Wednesday, August 14:

- 9:30 Leave DMHS. The students should bring sack lunches or get a sack lunch from our hot lunch program.
- 12:00 Arrive at Hut, eat lunch, get settled in, and explore area
- 5:00 Make dinner
- 6:00 Dinner and team-building games
- 9:00 Lights out

Thursday, August 15:

- 7:00 Wake up!
- 8:00 Make breakfast/get water
- 9:00 Eat breakfast
- 9:30 Explore and play games
- 12:00 Lunch
- 2:00 Solo/reflection time
- 5:00 Make dinner
- 6:00 Dinner and team-building games
- 8:00 Star gazing
- 9:00 Lights out

Friday, August 16:

- 7:00 Wake up!
- 8:00 Quick breakfast, pack sack lunches
- 9:00 Hike down to vans
- 11:00 Drive to Leadville
- 11:30 Lunch and exploring Vail, Avon, or Leadville
- 1:00 Leave for DMHS
- 2:30 Arrive at DMHS unpack, and cleanup

## Polar Star Inn and Siepel Hut - Advisement Fall Trip Suggested Packing List

Weather in the mountains of Colorado can be highly variable. It can be very hot during the day, or cold and rainy, and will likely be cold at night.

### Essentials:

- Light sleeping bag/ sleeping bag liner/or sheet and blanket (Mattress and pillow are provided)
- Hiking shoes or tennis shoes
- Extra shoes (if one gets wet)
- **Rain jacket/rain poncho/ large garbage bag**
- Warm Layers
- Sweater/sweatshirt/fleece
- One to two sets of clothes including underwear and extra **warm socks**
  - Comfortable pants
  - Shorts
- Pajamas
- **Water bottle**
- **Daypack/backpack - large enough to carry ALL of your gear AND to help with group gear, does NOT need to be a backpacking pack**
- Sun hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- **Flashlight/headlamp**
- A pen/pencil and small notebook

### Toiletries:

- Toothbrush, Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray

NO ELECTRONICS PLEASE. THIS INCLUDES IPODS, CELL PHONES, etc.

If you have extra packs that you would let other students borrow, please let me know!

