

Absence Request Forms

EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY

To request an absence to attend or participate in an educational activity, please complete this application form and return it to your school principal at least five (5) days prior to the absence. Such an absence as requested by this signed application and approved by the school principal, will be considered an excused absence. The major intent of the activity must be educational in order for the student to be granted this type of absence. The proposed activity must have significant educational value and be composed of an intensive program related to the core curriculum (e.g. art programs, dance programs, State Fair activities, workshops that are educational in nature, college visits, etc.). The Principal will use his/her good judgment to determine if the activity meets guidelines. A student may be approved for up to ten (10) days of absence per year for this purpose. Students who are granted an absence under this law will be allowed to make up all school work. Student grades can not be affected by lack of attendance or participation in classes for approved days. This type of absence can not occur during the school's state assessment or District-wide assessments, unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved by the Principal. Decisions may be appealed to the Superintendent and then to the Board of Education.

Student Full Legal Name: Jonathan Owen Talbert Date of Application 11/4/2016

Name of School _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age _____ Grade Level _____ Home Phone _____

Residence Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip-Code: _____

of Excused Absences To Date _____ # of Unexcused Absences To Date _____

of Total Absences to Date _____

Date(s) of Intended Absence(s) _____

NAMES(S) OF SIBLINGS WHO WILL ATTEND THE ACTIVITY	SCHOOL(S) ATTENDING
<u>See attached</u>	

Please explain the nature of the event the student will be attending and how the activity meets the criteria of (1) having an educational purpose, (2) having "significant educational value," and (3) how the activity is directly related to one of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language or the arts*. Please attach a schedule of activities/events to be attended. (Use additional paper, if needed, and attach to this completed form.)

Jonathan Talbert Shanie B. Talbert
 Signature of Student Date 11/4/2016 Signature of Parent/Guardian Date 11/4/2016

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EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY (CONT.)

FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

(THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL / DESIGNEE)

This request must meet all three criteria to be eligible for an educational opportunity absence:

1. This request is for an absence that will have "significant educational value" and be "intensive" in nature. Yes ☒ No ☐
2. This trip is tied to one of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language or the arts. Yes ☒ No ☐
3. The major purpose of the trip is educational. Yes ☒ No ☐

As Principal, I recommend ☒ I do not recommend ☐ that this educational opportunity absence be granted.

Principal's Rationale This trip is of high educational value
and while on the trip, the family will participate
in many activities tied to Common Core Standards.

Diana M. Smith

Signature of Principal

1/17/17

Date

FOR CENTRAL OFFICE USE / APPEAL OF PRINCIPAL'S DECISION

As Superintendent, I recommend ☐ I do not recommend ☐ that this educational opportunity absence be granted.

Superintendent's Rationale _____

Signature of Superintendent

Date

The District ☐ grants ☐ does not grant this educational opportunity absence.

Signature of the Board Chairman

Date

Educational Enhancement Opportunity Form

Student Full Legal Name: Jonathan Owen Talbert

Date of Application: 11/4/2016

Name of School: Cox's Creek Elementary School

Homeroom Teacher: Mrs. Risner

Date of Birth: May 27, 2009 Age: 7 Grade Level: 2nd

Home Phone: 270-699-1803

Residence Address: 1027 Walnut Creek Drive

City: Bardstown

State: Kentucky

Zip Code: 40004

of Excused Absences To Date: 0 #of Unexcused Absences To Date: 0 # of Total Absences to Date: 0

Date(s) of Intended Absence(s): January 27, January 30-31, February 1-3, 2017

Please explain the nature of the event the student will be attending and how the activity meets the criteria of (1) having an educational purpose, (2) having "significant educational value," and (3) how the activity is directly related to one of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language or the arts. Please attach a schedule of activities/events to be attended. (Use additional paper, if needed, and attach to this completed form.)

On the morning of January 27, 2017, our family will be leaving and traveling to Port Canaveral, Orlando, Florida. We choose to travel in January because we have a large family and it is less expensive to travel during this time. If we waited until Jonathan is on a break from school, we would not be able to afford him the opportunities of travelling. While on our trip, we will be traveling to Amber Cove, Dominican Republic; St. Thomas, USVI; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Grand Turk island before returning to Florida. Each of these locations will offer Jonathan a variety of opportunities to delve into the core content areas of English, science, math, social studies, foreign language and the arts.

On January 27, Jonathan will be flying for the first time. We are hoping that he will be allowed to board early and tour the cockpit and/or talk to the pilots about plans and how they fly. Because we are flying, we will arrive in Florida before noon. Because of this, we will have time to travel to Kennedy Space Center to tour the grounds and see the shuttles. Here, he will be able to work with the core content areas of math and science. He will also begin a travel journal on the plane that will document his travels.

On January 28, we will board the Carnival cruise ship. While on the ship, Jonathan will get to meet people from all over the world and talk to them about their home countries and what it is like to work on a cruise ship. Social studies and foreign languages can be explored through the social interaction with both staff and other guests on the ship. Jonathan will be keeping a scrapbook of the people he meets, where they are from, and what language they speak.

On January 30, while in Amber Cove, Dominican Republic, Jonathan will get the opportunity to interact with dolphins while on our excursion to Ocean World. Ocean World is the largest man-made dolphin habitat in the world. Here, he will learn about marine animals, feed exotic birds, walk through a tropical rain forest, and snorkel in the Tropical Reef Aquarium. He will also observe a Dolphin Show, Shark Show, Sea Lion and tropical Bird Show. While at the water park, Jonathan will be touching on core content in the areas of science, social studies, foreign language, and the arts.

On January 31, Jonathan will be getting off the ship and venturing to St. Thomas, USVI. While here, he will learn that the United States has acquired land in a variety of locations in the world. He will get to experience the climate in Kentucky as compared to the climate in this tropical location. While in St. Thomas, we will visit Drake's Seat, a breathtaking vantage point that offers a commanding view of Magen's Bay Beach, St. John island, the British Virgin Islands and all the cays. This location is called Drake's Seat because there is a bench here names after Sir Francis Drake, the British privateer who was commissioned by Queen Elizabeth I. This is where Sir Francis Drake used to spy on enemy ships of the Spanish Fleet passing through Drake's Passage, where the Atlantic Ocean join the Caribbean Sea. While here Jonathan will be delving into content related to art and social studies.

On February 1, Jonathan will be exploring San Juan, Puerto Rico. Here our family plans to explore the El Yunque rainforest as well as the San Cristobal Fortress, the largest Fort of old San Juan build in the New World built by the Spaniards in 1634 to protect against attacks. Jonathan will visit both Old San Juan and New San Juan and compare the two. The topics addressed during this portion of the trip will cover the subject areas of social studies, foreign language, and the arts.

On February 2, Jonathan will be exploring Grand Turk island. Here, he will have the opportunity to snorkel and explore a shallow coral reef. He will again have the opportunity to learn about science, social studies, and foreign languages.

February 3 leads us back to a day a sea where Jonathan will spend the entire day on the cruise ship. Jonathan will continue to meet people from all over the world and will continue to complete his scrapbook. Social studies and foreign languages will continue to be explored through the social interaction with both staff and other guests on the ship.

On February 4, we will debark the ship and fly home. On the plane, Jonathan will complete the rest of his travel journal. Between the scrapbooking project and the travel journal that Jonathan will be keeping he will have the opportunity to work on his English skills as well. When we return home, we usually develop a Powerpoint or create a Shutterfly book with our pictures so that he can reflect on and remember his trip. We will be happy to share this compilation upon request.

On all stops, Jonathan will be given money to buy souvenirs and is allowed to do so independently. Here he learns about the exchange rate and covers core content related to foreign currency and math. In addition, he continues to interact with people of different cultures who speak different languages. Furthermore, I have downloaded several books on the countries that we will be visiting and Jonathan will be reading about the locations before, during, and after we return from our trip.

As you know, studies have shown that children who are allowed the opportunity for educational travel benefit in many ways. Just a few of these benefits are listed below:

- Increased Flexibility and Adaptability
- Heightened Geographical Awareness
- Increased Intelligence
- Marked Increase in Curiosity
- Heightened Interpersonal Awareness
- Improved knowledge of world geography
- Knowledge and understanding of other cultures

- Increased empathy toward others
- The opportunity to learn a new language
- Improved self-confidence
- Improved career opportunities
- Becoming more open-minded

As in years past, Jonathan will complete any work deemed necessary by the teacher as we have already requested this work in advance.

Please thoughtfully and carefully consider our request to excuse Jonathan's absences from school so that he may be able to travel with both his maternal and paternal grandparents, a maternal aunt and his cousin to countries he would otherwise only read about in books.

If additional clarification regarding this trip and our travel plans is needed, please contact me by phone at 270-699-1803.