**THIS IS A DECISION PAPER.**

**TO:**  Members of the Hardin County Board of Education

**FROM:** Teresa Morgan, Superintendent

**DATE:** March 21, 2024

**SUBJECT:** JTA 24-25 8th Graders to New York, NY via Commercial Carrier

**Request:** The James T Alton Middle School 8th grade floor is asking permission to transport up to 200 Hardin County students out of state through WorldStrides Educational Travel & Experiences. This request is based on a plan to visit New York City in the 24-25 SY during Spring Break. The dates are tentatively set for Saturday, March 29 through Monday, March 31, 2025. Students will travel via commercial carrier for time and cost efficiency.

**Discussion:**

1. This trip will be at no cost to the school. The students will be paying a fee of $2000 each. There will be one chaperone per 10 students whose expenses are paid by the chaperone or WorldStrides. The trip is intended to enhance the Social Studies and Arts Curriculum as well as provide an otherwise unlikely opportunity.
2. Content Area: Activity:

Government 9/11 Memorial and Museum

US History Times Square

Geography Empire State Building

Drama/Theater Tour of Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty

 Rockefeller Center

 Grand Central Station

Broadway Production

Central Park

American Natural History Museum

St. Patrick’s Cathedral

Staten Island Ferry Ride

1. With Board approval, we will depart by plane on the morning of Saturday, March 29, 2025, and return by flight on the evening of Monday, March 31, 2025. Students will not miss any school. Chaperones will be provided by JTA. Approving this trip now will provide students/families with ample time to plan and prepare for the trip as they can apply for WorldStrides Scholarships to pay for parts of the trip and can make payment plans through this school year up until the next school year.

**Recommendation:** I recommend the Hardin County Board of Education approve the JTA 8th grade trip to New York, NY from March 29-31, 2025, via commercial carrier for time and cost efficiency.

**Recommended Motion:** I move the Hardin County Board of Education approve the JTA 8th grade trip to New York, NY from March 29-31, 2025, via commercial carrier for time and cost efficiency.