

2019 DC Trip for St. John's School In Question

By: Taylor Andrews

Will the 2018-2019 eighth graders of St. John's Lutheran School in Marysville, Ohio, have to break a special tradition that has been going on for years?

The 13 and 14 year olds at St. Johns are undergoing some serious discussion on whether they go to Maryland with or without the seventh graders to cut down on spending. This idea is new to the school of St. Johns and comes across as a shock to the students. The Board Of Christian Education has determined that the 7th graders will be going on the trip with the 8th graders either this year or the next. The thought is that this will cut down on cost for the students going when they take a bus because Grade 8 consists of very few students.

During a DC meeting there was word that the 8th graders this year will be going alone and the 7th graders next year will be going accompanied by the current 6th graders of St. John's. These tourists take a look at some of the various monuments that the District Of Columbia has to offer such as the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The current 8th graders seem to be very excited and are glad the board decided for them to go alone this year.

One student on this class is very eager to go on this trip and has one specific monument in mind that he would like to visit. "I would like to see the Tomb Of The Unknown Soldier because I have heard a lot of things about it and it seems very interesting," said Eli Thrush.

The big deal of this issue and what is causing the unrest of the students, parents, and teachers is that the school has been doing this for a long time. A DC trip is a popular choice for an 8th grade, and the school will have to make a change in the upcoming years due to a lack of students and money. The 7th graders that will go on this same trip next year do not seem thrilled either about the change and want a trip just for their class as well. The whole idea of going with 2 grades at the same time seems to be inadequate for a trip.

All three of the people I interviewed had very similar views. All my interviewees believe that going to Washington DC should be exclusively an 8th grade trip with no tag-alongs. Going to Washington always seems to be a fun and exciting thing to do with the eighth grade class and everyone in the past seems to have had a great time. The people I spoke with were all students of this class. They are going on this trip in April of 2019. All the interviewees think this experience will be a very good and educational experience. The eager students look forward to this pedagogic trip.

The 8th grade class will take a bus to the District of Columbia for a three day trip. "I am excited to go and will hope to learn a lot from the experience," says 8th grade student Eli Thrush.