

November 2018



Dear Parents and Guardians of Graduating Students,

Our year end celebration trip has been booked! We will be traveling to Brock University on June 10, 2019 - June 12, 2019 for their Youth University program. Students will participate in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities around the campus and the Niagara Region, including an evening excursion to Clifton Hill in Niagara Falls.

Students will be traveling with Attridge Transportation via coach bus. Accommodations will be in the residence buildings, with students sharing bedrooms. Six meals will be provided for students, and various dietary and allergy restrictions can be accommodated. Students are asked to bring a bagged lunch for the first day.

Attached is an example itinerary, with specific activities being decided upon closer to the excursion. Students will be supervised by Ridgemount staff, as well as have Brock University counselors leading and supervising activities.

The cost for this trip, including activities, accommodations, transportation, meals , an excursion to Clifton Hill, and cancellation insurance is \$400 per student. Families will be given the opportunity to pay in installments, or in one lump sum, with cash, cheque made out to the school, or through School Cash Online. A \$50 non-refundable deposit to secure your child's spot will be due by December, 21, 2018. Opportunities for students to participate in fundraising to off-set the cost of their trip will take place in the new year.

A parent information session will take place on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 5:30 pm in the Ridgemount Library. This session will allow parents and students the opportunity to ask questions and get some more information about the trip. A detailed payment plan will be provided, as well as information about the accommodations and activities.

Students who do not demonstrate satisfactory behaviour will no longer be invited to participate in this excursion and this decision can be made at any time throughout the year. Maturity and responsibility are required for this excursion.

Please direct any questions to your child's teacher as they come. We look forward to taking your students on this educational excursion as a way to celebrate the end of an excellent year! Please plan to attend our meeting on December 5 at 5:30 pm.

Sincerely,
Mr. M. Adams & Miss. J. Toth



Grade 8 Year End Trip - Important Information

Where and when is this trip?

Location:

Brock University, Youth University Program

Dates:

June 10, 11, 12, 2019

How and when do I pay?

One Lump Sum due December 21, 2018 - \$400

or

Installment Plan

December 21, 2018 - \$50 non-refundable deposit to secure child's spot

February 1, 2019 - \$100

March 1, 2019 - \$100

April 5, 2019 - \$100

May 3, 2019 - \$50

Cash, Cheque made out to Ridgemount School, or School Cash Online

What should my child bring?

There will be a variety of outdoor and indoor activities. Bedding will be provided by Brock University. Below is a list of suggested items to bring:

- Running shoes, sandals, socks
- Weather appropriate clothing (shorts, t-shirts, rain jacket, hoodie, hat, etc.)
- Sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses
- Towel (x 2) and bathing suit
- Undergarments, pyjamas
- Toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, hair brush/comb, etc.)

Each child will be responsible to carry his or her own belongings. A small backpack can be brought onto the bus, and all other luggage will be stowed below.

Where will my child be staying? What will my child eat?

Staff and students will be staying in the Brock University Lowenberger Residence building. Students will be sharing rooms, with shared washrooms. Staff will be on the same floor as students. Staff and students will be eating at the university. Meals can accommodate a variety of dietary restrictions (including allergies).

What about my child's medication?

If your child requires regular medication, you will be required to fill out a Medication Dispensary form and return it to the school. On the trip, please put all necessary medications in a zippered baggie, labeled with the child's name, dosage, and instructions. The student will be responsible to find his or her teacher to receive his or her medication when the time is appropriate.

What will the technology policy be on the trip?

Students will be allowed to keep their technology devices (cell phones, tablets, video games, ipods, etc.) on the bus. Once we arrive at Brock University, devices will be collected and students will be immersed in the camp lifestyle. If the counselors deem devices necessary or an asset for an activity, staff will return devices to the students for that specific activity. Students will be allowed their devices back in the evenings before dinner to check in with their families. After dinner, devices will again be collected and kept safe over night. Students will receive their devices back once we board the bus to come home.

What happens if my child can not behave appropriately on the trip?

If student behaviours are a concern, parents will be notified to pick up their child immediately. These types of issues might include bullying, unsafe behaviours, disrespect to counselors or staff, or other various behaviours requiring discipline as outlined in the school agenda. Students are expected to represent Ridgemount School with maturity, responsibility, and integrity. If a behaviour concern occurs with your child prior to the trip, they will no longer be invited to attend and a refund will only be returned if a replacement student can be found to take the spot on the trip.