

## Teachers,

Please share all the information below with your team so that you can have the best field trip experience possible!

### **IMPORTANT INFO REGARDING DETOUR DUE TO A BRIDGE OUTAGE:**

There is a bridge out on the main road leading to the farm therefore a detour is necessary. **PLEASE** make sure the bus drivers follow these directions as the official TXDOT detour will take you an additional 30 minutes. Here is our recommendations:

- Take Exit I22 off I 35 and go right on highway 173.
- Travel 2.8 miles and take a left on CR 761 right before Black Creek Bar & Grill.
- Travel 1.3 miles and turn left onto CR 764.
- Travel .9 until you reach FM 2200. Then take a left.
- The farm will be approximately one mile down 2200 on your left.

**Arrival:** Your group should plan to arrive between 9:30-10am. The field trip will begin once payment is received, and students have entered the farm. You will be assigned a guide along with a designated place for lunch. Each teacher will receive a bag of animal feed for their classes (Students can feed barnyard animals following lunch).

**Parking:** Parents will park in one lot; the buses will park in another lot. Please advise the bus drivers to look for the lot specified for bus parking.

**School Field Trip Payment:** Once buses are parked, the teacher in charge of payment will need go to a designated area titled "Teacher Check-In" to pay for the field trip (or present the P.O.) so that remaining teachers and students can enter the farm. A receipt will be provided. If the amount on the check is higher than the balance due (because students are absent), we will reimburse by check if the amount is more than \$50. We accept cash, checks, P.O.'s and Visa, Mastercard, Discover, Amex & ACH deposit.

**Teacher Lunches:** Teachers are welcome to bring in lunches or order lunches at the farm. We require lunches to be ordered upon arrival to the farm, so we know how much to prepare. The teacher paying for the field trip will need to take orders and collect money in advance for the team so that lunch orders/payments can be taken in conjunction with the school payment. Lunch vouchers will be issued for each lunch that is pre-ordered and they can be redeemed at our farm kitchen when the students go to lunch.

**Three lunch options \$10 each. Drinks are available for purchase at The Filling Station.**



**Parent Admission:** Parents/family members will pay for their entry (\$12, 2 & under are free) and receive a wristband near their designated parking area. Do not collect parent money as they are required to pay on their own. We **do not** sell online tickets for parents.

**Trash:** Please make sure that your students pick up all trash throughout the day; especially following lunch! **Please** take the boxes that students lunches came in back with you as well any unopened milk containers and/or fruit that the kids did not eat. We appreciate your help with this as we have limited space for trash.

**Facilities** We have clean portable toilets with hand washing facilities available on the farm as well as a handicapped accessible portable facility with a baby changing table.

**Clothing:** Be sure to dress for the farm as well as the weather. Please encourage students to bring jackets if it is cold as all activities are outdoors. Sandals and open toes shoes are discouraged.

**Water** Teachers, please be sure to provide your students with drinking water as we do NOT have water fountains on the farm. We do sell bottled Dasani water on site for \$3. We do provide igloos with cold water near the lunch area for refills for a more affordable option. Cups can be purchases for a minimal cost (10 for \$1) to cover our ice/cup expenses. You are welcome to bring your own cups.

**First Aid:** All activities are outdoors and there are certain risks associated with being outdoors: bee, wasp, and fire ant stings, hay allergies, etc. We do not administer or distribute any type of medications. The school is responsible for bringing a first aid kit with everything needed for any minor injuries including EpiPen's, inhalers, Benadryl,

**Cancellation/Re-Schedule** If you need to cancel your field trip, please give us a minimum of 72 hour's notice. If you need to re-schedule, please call or email as early as possible as space is limited.

**Late? Lost? Worried about the weather?** Please text Debi @ 210-288-6260 if you are running late, buses are lost, or you have concerns about the weather. Fortunately, our ground is sandy, so rain does not equal mud!

**Parents:** We welcome parents and encourage them to attend the field trip. Please send the letter home for parents so that they are informed about the detour, where to park, times, cost, food options, etc.

**Student Lunches:** Most schools provide lunches for the students; however, we are happy to provide school lunches give a minimum of one week's notice.

### **Schedule- Guided Learning, Lunch & Self-Guided Time:**

- Students and teachers (no parents) will take a scenic hayride through the Christmas trees. The driver will stop at a designated area along the hayride route to teach a lesson about how we grow trees and how beneficial ladybugs are to the trees!
- Students will visit Market Pavilion where they will learn about the lifecycle of a ladybug, view live ladybugs, and make a bookmark to take home to reinforce what they have learned!
- Students will then go to their designated area for lunch. Following lunch, teachers can take the students to feed the barnyard animals and/or play at the playground.
- At 12:30, all schools can gather at the amphitheater (near playground) to enjoy the goat races while learning interesting facts about our farm animals!
- Please begin to load buses by 1:15. The farm closes at 1:30.