



# Watertown Middle School

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January 13, 2012

Dear eighth grade parents and guardians,

I regret to inform you that we will be putting the Washington Trip, scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, on indefinite hold. The Washington Trip parent information meeting scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> is canceled.

Last summer, union leadership informed me that teachers will not volunteer their time outside of the working day to lead field trips for our students, and this kind of teacher volunteerism is precisely what the Washington Trip is dependent on.

Dr. Fitzgerald and I have explored options around taking our eighth grade students to Washington without teachers and we have come to the conclusion that under the present circumstances the moving forward with the trip is not feasible.

Should circumstances change, and time permits, we will reevaluate.

The Washington Trip has been the culminating eighth grade experience for a great many eighth grade students going back for many, many years. We regret that we must make this difficult decision.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the suspension of the Washington Trip, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

J. Kimo Carter, Principal