

Is School Board Approval Right For You?

Did you know that hundreds of music educators lead performancetours every year without their school board's official endorsement? Deciding whether to seek school board approval is a choice every teacher must make, so let us help you make the one that's right for you.

Regardless of whether or not your trip is school sponsored, you won't need to worry about liability. Encore Tours carries \$51 million in general liability insurance that covers school districts and educators on tours regardless of the trip's affiliation with their school. We are also committed to safety, with a 24/7 emergency response network. Additionally, every student is required to adhere to Encore's Behavioral Guidelines.

Advantages of traveling without official school board approval:

- YOU are in charge. YOU get the final say.
 - You choose the itinerary and decide, without worry, how closely it follows your curriculum.
 - > You choose the activities and venues without needing to consider if each one adheres precisely to district policies.
 - > You choose your participants.
 - You choose your assistants. As a bonus, many of our group leaders enjoy bringing their significant other along as a free chaperone.
- You may enjoy Encore's full range of group leader benefits (including Prelude) regardless of your state's rules for public employees.
- No school board meetings! You save time and headaches by eliminating the entire approval process from your to do list.

Meet a teacher who travels without school board approval:

"When I began traveling with students 10 years ago, the school board had a policy of not approving international travel. I chose to form a travel group without school board approval because providing my students with the opportunity to see the world is something I truly believe in. And, traveling without school board approval is easy when working with a company I trust." Whether you're a school or community ensemble, you'll probably need to get approval from the board for your tour.

Learn more about the advantages of gaining board approval:

- You are allowed to promote your tour in school.
- You may host meetings at school.
- You may publicize your tour in your classroom, during daily announcements and through your colleagues.
- With approval, some schools are more flexible about missing a few hours or days of school to travel.
- Many private schools will showcase these performance tours in their promotional materials to excite and inspire perspective students.

Meet a teacher who travels with school board approval:

"Our Board and our Bishop believe that traveling is vital to the life of our school and our community. Their support enhances the overall enthusiasm for travel among students and their parents. Students look forward to when it's their turn to travel and when the trip ends, and kids return home, our experiences are the talk of the school."

Still not sure?

Our program consultants are experts. Let's talk and figure this out together.