MAPLE POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MISSING SCHOOL DAYS FOR FAMILY VACATION

Complete the form below within ten or more days prior to the vacation.

Please read the Criteria/Guidelines on the reverse side.

- Attach a note from your parent <u>and</u> have your parent sign this form. (State in the note the educational purpose of this vacation.)
- ❖ Take this form to your 1st thru 7th period teachers to initial. (They may give you homework to be completed while on vacation.)
- Bring the completed and signed form with the note attached to the office for the principal or assistant principal to approve.

Approved family vacations are considered "excused" absences. Excused absences count toward total allowable absence before course credit may be denied.

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CRITERIA/GUIDELINES

Regulations of the State of Pennsylvania provide that, upon written request from the parents/guardians of the pupils involved, pupils may be excused from school attendance to participate in an educational tour or trip not sponsored by school when the trip is evaluated by the Superintendent as educational, and if the adult supervision is acceptable to both the Superintendent and the pupil's parents/guardians.

In the Neshaminy School District, the building principal has been designated by the Superintendent to make the initial decision, based on the information provided.

In order to clarify such absences, the following procedure for non-school educational trips/tours is established:

- 1. This form must be submitted to the Principal a <u>minimum of ten school days prior to the trip</u> (except in an emergency). Parents/guardians will be notified in any case in which the request is denied.
- 2. Requests will be approved <u>only</u> if it can be determined that such trip/tour is of <u>educational</u> value to the student.
- 3. Unless there are unusual or emergency circumstances, such requests will **NOT** be approved for the first ten (10) school days of the year, or during PSSA testing for students in Grades 6, 7, and 8.
- 4. No more than ten (10) school days per student will be approved for educational trip/tour requests in any school year. (Special requests with unusual circumstances or exceptional opportunities for learning should be discussed <u>personally</u> with the building Principal well in advance of the requested dates for absence).
- 5. Satisfactory academic achievement will be considered in the approval of such a request.
- 6. Make-Up Work While many teachers are able to provide their students with general work that can be completed while on a trip, please do not expect that a teacher can provide you with all of the work that will be covered during that time. Teachers adjust their instruction and pace for many different reasons. Instruction that is given in class can often not be made up through paper and pencil-type work. It is your responsibility to see that your child makes up the necessary work/tests when you return from the trip.

If the teacher has provided you with a work packet, it is your responsibility to see that the work is completed and returned to school when your child returns. You may need to plan on working with your child to teach new concepts since time may not allow your child's teacher to re-teach this missed material. It is important for children to return to school with an understanding of the material that was covered while they were on vacation.