

**FOR 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS ONLY**  
STANDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK FIELD TRIP  
INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

August 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

The Standley Science Department and Yosemite Institute have developed a unique program of study and exploration in Yosemite National Park! Yosemite Institute is a private, non-profit organization whose mission it is to provide experiential field science programs in Nature's Classroom to inspire personal connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it.

We are planning this trip for **April 18-23, 2010**.

There will be an informational meeting for parents and students in November. Please see the Standley website for the date of the upcoming meeting: [sandi.net/standley](http://sandi.net/standley).

The staff of Yosemite Institute are experienced in teaching young people and adults. All are college graduates with natural history backgrounds and interests appropriate to the national park setting. Small group instruction with trained leaders encourages an understanding of the basic principles of ecology through intimate association with a natural environment. This is an exceptional educational opportunity.

The cost per student is \$725. \$125 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit is due September 28, 2009.  
Second Installment of \$300 due December 4, 2009  
Third and Final Installment of \$300 due February 19, 2010  
Cancellations after February 19, 2010, will result in a refund of \$300 total (\$725-\$300-\$125). No refunds after March 12, 2010.

Make checks payable to Standley Middle School at the financial office in person. Please be sure to get a receipt. Include your child's first and last name on the memo line of your check for proper credit along with the parent information sheet located on the back of this letter.

This cost covers transportation in coach buses with rest rooms, tuition, room and board. We only have 80 spaces available. The deposits will be received on a first come-first served basis until all eighty spots have been filled. Some parents may wish to contribute toward the fee for child other than their own so that we may offer assistance to those unable to afford the entire fee. Parents should encourage students to earn part or all of the expenses involved.

The weather in Yosemite can be anything from warm sunshine to snow, and the required clothing list is self-explanatory. In case of medical emergency, students will be taken to the Yosemite Medical Clinic facility in Yosemite Valley, where a copy of each student's medical form will be on file. This facility is professionally staffed at all times.

Emergency messages can be left for students, however, students cannot be reached directly.

To ensure our trip successful for all participants, we follow specific procedures, scholarship/citizenship requirements for students. Please read the following criteria carefully:

- Students maintain a 3.0 citizenship average with no Ns or Us.
- Students must maintain a 2.5 academic grade point average with no Fs.
- Any student who receives an F in any course after the first 12 week progress report of the first semester will be taken off the trip at that time.

- Students who receive referrals of DRESSED TO LEARN Violation for any reason will be reviewed by a committee of teacher, counselors, and administrators and may be removed from the trip. Students will be notified of the committee's decision.

Due to logistics issues, there can be no bending of the above requirements. Students must demonstrate they really want to be part of this great experience by meeting the criteria at all times.

OTHER INFO:

Yosemite Institute has a web site that has much more information. It's worth the visit:

<http://www.yni.org>

Fundraising will be handled separately. More info will follow.

Few scholarships are available. We will work with these students/families on a case-by-case basis. Please direct any questions to Ms. Shelley Rannikko

(858) 455-0550 ext. 2307

srannikko@sandi.net (email is preferred)

Sincerely,



Ms. Shelley Rannikko  
Science Department

Heidi Eastcott  
Principal

The following two pieces of information are REQUIRED:

1. Log in to the following website online and complete the form.

<http://tinyurl.com/mj5l8w>

2. Fill out the form below and return to the office with your deposit.

-----Return with your deposit-----

***Yosemite Initial Trip Information  
April 18-23,2010 Bus Departs at 6:00 am!***

***Student Name:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***(print)***

***7<sup>th</sup> grade Science Teacher*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Parent Name:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***(print)***

***Parent phone (day):*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***Parent phone (evening):*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Email:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***(print clearly)***

***Willing to help with fundraising*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Willing to donate items for opportunity drawing (raffle)*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***(please list)***

***Willing to help with data entry*** \_\_\_\_\_

***(other)*** \_\_\_\_\_

***I understand the terms and conditions listed in the above letter.***

***Bus departs Standley 6:00am sharp on Sunday, April 18, 2010!***

***Signature*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Date:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***(Have financial secretary date stamp)***