

Mt Baker Snow Camping Trip Form Draft:

Description: Come to Mt. Baker and snow camp with the Northwest School Outdoor Program! The focus of this trip will be practicing snow camping in a safe environment. Students are expected to construct and stay in snow shelters on Saturday night. After sleeping in the shelters Saturday night, we then avail ourselves of the outdoor recreation opportunities (typically the lift area, cross skiing and/or snow shoeing) in the alpine valley on Sunday.

For interested students: Attendance at required classes on winter safety and snow shelter construction will be a prerequisite for participating in this trip. Likewise, previous participation (preferably within the last year) with the NWS outdoor program is expected.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES – *PLEASE READ CAREFULLY*: Please have your student read this form – especially the packing list with you.

REQUIRED CLASSES

Required classes will meet:

- **Friday 12/14/2018 interest group time** in the Earth Lab.
- **Thursday 1/10/2019 3:35-4:30** in the Earth Lab.
- **Friday 1/11/2019 interest group time** in the Earth Lab.

Attendance at the above mentioned classes is required for participation in this trip. If you are unable to attend any of the classes be sure to let Herb know in writing beforehand. Failure to attend the classes or failure to provide adequate/timely written notice suggesting arrangements for making up the classes may result in loss of your space on the trip. Required classes will meet in the **Earth Lab**.

Topics will include:

- Hypothermia: signs, symptoms, and prevention.
- Snow shelter construction techniques.
- Equipment and packing seminar.

Deadline for permissions slip/fee is Dec 4, 2018

POLICIES

Students will be expected to sign up and partake in meal preparation and other duties/chores at the Mountaineer Lodge.

This is an optional Northwest School trip; all school rules and policies are to be observed. In addition, the following guidelines are to be followed:

- All skiing/boarding must be in the boundaries of the ski area.
- You must be with a partner from NWS at all times.
- Cell phones may be brought and used on this trip for only the following purposes:
 - 1) taking photographs (with permission first.)
 - 2) communicating with trip leaders (emergency situations.)
 - 3) calling home on Monday afternoon in the event we are ahead of/behind schedule.

WHEN AND WHERE: Friday - Monday, 18-21, 2018

Departure: Friday, 1/18, from the South Parking Lot very soon after the MLK celebration at NWS (c. 1:00 PM)

Return: Monday, 1/21, 3:30 PM back at school in the South Parking Lot. Parents, please plan on picking up your student(s) at this designated time. Thanks!

NOTE: We are staying for the whole weekend, Friday through Sunday nights, returning on Monday afternoon.

TRANSPORTATION: NWS Bus

ITINERARY: Friday about 1pm we depart NWS and drive to Bellingham. Food/gear shop in Bellingham and then drive to Mountaineers Lodge at Mt Baker, unload bus and spend the night. Saturday is spent building safe snow shelters and students sleep in them Saturday night. Sunday we ski/board in the ski area or snowshoe in the neighborhood. Monday we pack up and drive back to NWS. **Please arrange a prompt pick-up from the school, as a faculty member must remain with the student(s) until they are picked up.**

LODGING We will be sharing the space/meals/chores at the Mt Baker Mountaineers Lodge with Seattle Girls School. Students will be expected to sign up and partake in meal preparation and other duties/chores at the Mountaineer Lodge.

SUPERVISION AND CONTACT *Trip leader:* Herb Bergamini, herb.bergamini@northwestschool.org, 206-218-3835 *Additional faculty:* Nathan Franck, Hiro Imoto, Olivia Heeter and Elizabeth Weber-Bruya.

COST Trip registration: \$230. This fee covers transportation, all meals/food and lodging and should be payable online to the school. This fee does NOT cover: lift tickets/rentals, these costs are the responsibility of individual students.

Day lift tickets: 11-15 yrs @ \$38
16 & over @ \$60.01.

Lift tickets need to be purchased individually at the ski area. Consider gift cards... (see website www.mtbaker.us.)

If you need to rent gear for using the lift area, please rent from a source in the Seattle area. This saves time and frustration while at the ski area.

SPACE WILL BE LIMITED TO ABOUT **27** STUDENTS. In order to avoid the “gold rush” mentality which “first come means first registered,” we will continue the plan of looking carefully at our pool of interested students and then, as thoughtfully as possible, building a roster of participants and a “waiting pool” of possible replacements. We are looking for a mix of experience and grade levels. Thus, previous experience and participation with NWS Outdoor Program trips can make a difference in whether you get a spot on the roster. Students in the waiting pool should attend all the mandatory meetings because spaces always open up on the trip.