

Belmont High School

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Dear Dr. Kingston,

Attached is the proposal for an overnight field trip for the AP Environmental Science class to the Waterworks Museum and Thompson Island. The trip is a unique opportunity to collect data and conduct hands-on research that will enrich the water quality unit of the curriculum. The data and research will stand alone as a beneficial scientific experience, but will also tie into a larger ongoing water quality project. There are also additional activities provided that will further address topics covered throughout the year. We hope to receive your approval for this distinct scientific expedition.

Peter Guellnitz
AP Environmental Science Teacher

Deborah Darlington
Science Department Director

Daniel Richards
High School Principal

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BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF
SUPERINTENDENT

Approved

1/15/13

Proposal for APES Trip to Waterworks Museum/Thompson Island

Destination	Thompson Island, Boston, MA
Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 26-27, 2013
Educational Rationale	<p>Participants on the trip will learn about the maintenance, cleaning process and restoration of water resources that exist in the Boston area through an interactive tour of the Waterworks Museum. They will be able to use knowledge and skills gained from the AP Environmental Science curriculum to have the unique experience to test local water sources including the Boston Harbor during daytime and night. The onsite lessons from the museum and data collected from the water testing will be captivating research to include as a part of a larger water quality project. Students will receive a presentation from a NPS Ranger and hands-on classes from instructors regarding numerous ecosystems including swamp marshes, coastal areas and marine environments. Students who are unable to attend will be able to test local bodies of water that will be used as comparisons to the water tested on the trip and still be a part of the water quality project.</p>
Number of participants	24
Trip Leader	<p>Peter Guellnitz</p> <p>1 or 2 teacher chaperones depending on student attendance</p>
Itinerary	<p>The group will take a bus at 12 p.m. to the Waterworks Museum in Chestnut Hill. Group facilitators will give a tour/hands-on lesson to the students in two or three small groups. At 3:00 p.m. students will then take the bus to the Boston Harbor and load onto a ferry. The ferry will go to Thompson Island. At Thompson Island students will have a class on water testing, have dinner at the dining facility, perform water quality tests of the Boston Harbor, go for a night hike, and have a beach camp fire. The Students will stay on two floors in the Thompson Island dorms, separated by gender. In the morning, there will be a continental breakfast, a morning class on coastal ecosystems and exploration of the salt-marsh, an NPS Ranger will provide a presentation about human interactions with the local ecosystems, BBQ lunch and repeated water testing of the Boston Harbor. Students will depart on a ferry and take public transportation as a group back, arriving at Belmont High School at 6:00 p.m..</p>
Projected Costs	<p>Estimated cost: \$180/student. Financial assistance may be available if requested.</p>