



8th grade Team Members
New Hampton Middle School
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Dear Members of the Board;

Thank you for taking the time to consider our requests. I apologize for not being there in person. After I requested getting onto the agenda, I realized that we have our boys first round basketball game and I am due to cover that game for the fine people of our school district.

Once again we have some fine examples of oratory with our two speakers tonight. They represent 67 other speeches that were also very enjoyable to hear. As I have highlighted through the years, I am part of the Ford's Theater National Oratory Fellowship. This year they have offered not one, but two opportunities to travel with student delegates. From April 4-6th we have been offered four slots for students to attend a regional oratory event held at the Truman Presidential Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri. We attended this last year and had great success not only in sharing our students' voices, but participating in leadership and collaboration activities. I have also, once again after 6 years, been offered two slots to take students to Washington D.C. That will be held May 2nd to May 6th (including travel dates).

The bulk of the Washington D.C. trip is funded by Ford's Theater, including flights and hotels. Regarding Kansas City, the funding isn't there for that to be provided for us. As with last year, I am requesting \$1,000 in funding to help us cover the cost of hotels and gas for the K.C. trip, and to help with the cost of parking at the airport for the Washington D.C. trip. I am also requesting permission for two out of state field trips.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to representing NHCS on a national and regional level!

Jason Rude
7/8th grade social studies teacher
Ford's Theater National Oratory Fellow

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