



SECTION III: STUDENT POLICIES 3090

Student Field Trip and Activity Policy

Oklahoma Virtual Charter Academy (“OVCA”) seeks to provide students with rich opportunities for learning outside the virtual school. As a virtual school, OVCA may use educational and cultural resources to enrich the formal learning of its students. The Head of School shall have authority to approve field trips that do not involve an overnight stay and that flow naturally from curriculum topics being explored in the classroom. Activities may also stem from the need to reinforce ideas of cooperation and productive community living. For events involving an overnight stay, the OVCA Board of Education (the “Board”) shall approve any such field trips or activities as described herein.

Any overnight trips should offer significant educational benefits to students that clearly justify the time and expense. If students are charged individual fees for participation, every effort should be made to provide scholarships where needed.

Participation in a school-sponsored trip or activity which is not part of a required class activity is not a student’s right, but a privilege. No student may attend a trip if, in the determination of the Head of School, or his/her designee, the student’s behavior has been so inappropriate as to be deemed disruptive to the planned trip. Additionally, all policies, rules, and regulations of OVCA will be in effect throughout any school trip.

For the purpose of this policy, a field trip is defined as a school sponsored activity involving an individual student or groups of students who are traveling to a school-sponsored event. All field trips and student activity opportunities should be appropriate for the grade level.

This policy applies to all student trips which have received approval in accordance with this policy, including:

1. Day trips are defined as trips that occur during regular school hours, or trips that extend beyond normal school hours during the day, but do not extend overnight; and
2. Out-of-state or overnight trips are defined as trips that involve an overnight stay of at least one night or trips that involve travel out of state.

Any questions pertaining to this policy should be directed to the Head of School.

Purpose of Field Trips/Activities

Staff members will work within the following guidelines in their selection of appropriate field trips to present to the Head of School and/or Board.

- a. Field trips that are integral to a specific curriculum unit
These field trips include a focused visit to locations such as a museum, a theatre production, a historical location, or government building.
- b. Field trips that build group identity
These field trips might include an outward bound day trip or camping trip experience with an overnight component. Community building trips reinforce relationships in an existing group of students; they might also prepare students for a significant transition into a new structure or community (e.g. students entering grades 6 and 9). The context of such field trips is to help children work collaboratively, make decisions, evaluate success, and prepare for the future.
- c. Field trips that celebrate or culminate group work
These field trips might include a trip at the end of a school year for 8th grade students to mark the completion of their middle school years.
- d. Field trips that meet the mission and goals of student activity groups
These field trips might include travel to special events or to provide service to community organizations.

Students who attend field trips must be given a reasonable and adequate opportunity to complete assignments for other classes.

Any student or guardian of a minor student participating in a Field Trip, as defined herein, shall complete a Liability Release Form. Transportation Waivers were completed during enrollment. OVCA does not provide transportation for any school-related activities. Participation in a field trip is a privilege, and the failure to complete the required forms may prohibit a student from participating.



ASSUMPTION OF RISK LIABILITY WAIVER & RELEASE

On behalf of my minor child _____, I hereby give permission for my child to participate in _____ (the “Activity”). I hereby warrant that both myself and my child are familiar with the risks associated with participation in the Activity. I acknowledge that my child’s participation is wholly voluntary and is not part of the regular Oklahoma Skynet, Inc., a/k/a, Oklahoma Virtual Charter Academy School (“OVCA” or “School”) curricular program. I do hereby agree and consent to my child’s participation in the Activity during this school year and do assume all risks and hazards which are conducted as part of the associated activities. I hereby release, absolve, indemnify, and hold blameless OVCA, its officers, directors, employees, contracted employees, independent contractors, instructors, agents, organizers, and volunteers (the “Released Parties”) of all liability for damage, injury, or expense of any kind arising out of or connected with my child’s participation in the Activity. I understand that in case of a medical emergency, my own personal medical plan will be used if available; if not, medical aid may be sought while I am being contacted. In the event of any illness or injury, I hereby consent to whatever examination, diagnosis, or treatment and the hospital care from a licensed dentist, physician, and/or surgeon as deemed necessary for my child’s safety and welfare. I understand that the resulting expenses will be my responsibility and not the School’s or any affiliates. As a condition of participation in the Activity by my student, I acknowledge that I have read this consent form, and knowingly, on behalf of my child, assume all the risks associated with participating in any way in the Activity. As consideration for being permitted to participate in the Activity, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, guardians, and legal representatives will not make claim against, sue or attach the property of the School, or its Affiliates or the supplier of any of the equipment used in the Activity for injury or damage resulting from negligence, failure of care, omission or other acts, howsoever caused by an employee, agent or contractor of the School and contracted employees, or any affiliate as result of my child’s participation in the Activity. I hereby release, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the School and all of the other Released Parties, from any and all actions, claims, demands, or liabilities that I, my assignees, heirs, distributes, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my son/daughter’s participation in the Activity irrespective of whether the same is based on breach of warranty, negligence, strict liability or any other theory or recovery.

Parent/Legal Guardian acknowledges that the Activity is an out-of-school program and not a requirement by the School for course completion.

I have read this agreement and am authorized to sign this Release on behalf of the student identified above. I expressly state that I agree to the conditions stated above and assume the risks associated with the Activity and release the School and the Released Parties from any liability or responsibility arising from my student’s participation in the Activity.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: _____

Date: _____

Source: OVCA Board Policy adoption 12/18/2014

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