

Pulaski H.S. Music Department
2019 Trip
Oahu, Hawaii

At the May 17, 2017 PCSD School Board Meeting, the school board approved the PHS Music Department's (Band and Choir) request to pursue a trip to Oahu, Hawaii for November 2019.

While we appreciate the PCSD School Board and their support, it is important to understand that participation in this trip is not mandatory for any student of the Pulaski Band or Choir.

If we find that we have enough students, in a balanced, musical proportion, we will be pursuing the actual booking of this trip.

Questions you may like answered...

Cost - We are anticipating the cost to be approximately \$2,500.00 p/p in a quad occupancy.

Payments - This is a possible scenario at this point however, it is not finalized. March, 2018 = \$300.00 deposit.
April 2018 - September 2019 = \$135.00 per month.

Dates - While this is not clearly defined, we do know that we would be on the island on for Thanksgiving Day and the day after as that is the day of the Waikiki Holiday Parade. At the time of the writing of this letter, we believe we may be departing on Monday, November 25, 2019 and to possibly return on Sunday, December 1, 2019. This would make the most sense since it is over the 2 days of deer hunting and we have a large amount of students that are excused from school for those dates for hunting and it would hopefully be the least disruptive to the climate at PHS.

Performances - Our performance opportunities will be some, but not all of the following; [Waikiki Holiday Parade](#), [Pearl Harbor](#), [U.S.S. Missouri](#), [Iolani Palace](#), [Bishop Square](#), [Polynesian Cultural Center](#), [Kapiolani Park Bandstand](#), [Ala Moana Shopping Center](#), School Exchange, Clinic with local talent/professors.

Sight-Seeing - There are a number of cultural and historical opportunities for our students to experience while on this tour, here are just a few available on the ["big island."](#)



<https://www.waikikiholidayparade.com/>

The Waikiki Holiday Parade is a nighttime parade that commemorates the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, with 2017 marking the 76th anniversary. The parade is host to local Hawaiian bands, marching bands from the mainland, Pearl Harbor survivors, service bands, military units, local officials and dignitaries. The parade takes place annually on the day after Thanksgiving.

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Hawaii is Educational

There is obvious appeal to any trip to Hawaii – sunny beaches, relaxed atmosphere and gorgeous scenery. What often surprises groups are the educational, cross-cultural and historical experiences that the Hawaiian islands offer. Keep the following in mind when presenting a Hawaii Tour to your school board, parents or administration.

Educational & Cultural Value

- Visit USS Arizona Memorial, built over the remains of the sunken battleship USS Arizona
- USS Missouri Battleship self-tour, including the site where the Instrument of Surrender was signed in September 1945, ending World War II
- Meet WWII survivors at Pearl Harbor
- Explore eight Polynesian cultures in one day: Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Aotearoa (New Zealand), Marquesas, Hawaii, Rapa Nui and Tahiti at the Polynesian Cultural Center
- Learn the Hawaiian hula
- Learn a portion of the Hawaiian language

Here are some questions we were asked by our administration before we approached the school board. The answers to these questions are that of the PHS Music Department Faculty of Mr. Busch, Mrs. Brown and Mr. Guerrero

Why is this trip better than Philadelphia, Chicago, Colorado, Florida in the Fall of 2019?

- This performance opportunity cannot really be described as “better” as that is a somewhat biased opinion. We are certain there are students/parents who preferred the Outback Bowl to the Tournament of Roses. What we can say is that this performance opportunity to the historic island of Hawaii will be “different” than anything our district has been able to offer to our students and community. The island of Hawaii has a rich Polynesian culture that our students will be able to experience first hand. This includes music, food, social interactions, and history! Not to mention, Hawaii is home to historic Pearl Harbor. The opportunity for our students to perform and tour at a national monument has proven to be some of the best memories and “life-moments” our students recall from our previous performance opportunities.
- Traveling over/near the Thanksgiving break allows the students to participate in the Waikiki Holiday Parade and festivities on the island that are sure to provide unique once-in-lifetime moments for our students and families in attendance. This timeline also minimizes the amount of school missed and also may be perceived as the “best time” to be out of the building due to the large number of hunting absences.
- It is our hope as teachers that we continue to provide opportunities for unique learning environments that will broaden our students’ perspectives of the world all while developing as musicians. We are fortunate that our field of study allows for us to participate in extraordinary opportunities. We are mindful of representing our community and the surrounding area in the most positive light possible. We hope our reputation of successful trips can offer the opportunity to explore new educational connections to the future students of the PHS music program.