



CLEM RICHARDSON
PRINCIPAL

BAKER HIGH SCHOOL
8901 AIRPORT BLVD.
MOBILE, AL 36608-9599

TELEPHONE
(251) 221-3000

Dear Student and Parents;

This coming year juniors and seniors at Baker High School have opportunity to participate in the annual *Close Up* Washington D.C. trip. Students from Baker High School have been participating in the program since the early 1980's.

What is Close Up? Close Up is more than a field trip. It is an opportunity to visit the nation's capital and national leaders while learning from experienced instructors about our government and nation's history. Students have the awesome opportunity to interact with peers from across the nation. Please check out www.closeup.org for more detailed program information including video and student testimonies.

What is the daily itinerary? A sample itinerary can be viewed at www.closeup.org

When is the field trip? Baker will be participating during the week of March 20 –March 25, 2016 (Sunday –Friday).

Who can go? Juniors and seniors who are in good academic standing, and have a record of good conduct may attend.

What is the cost of the trip? \$1872.00* this is the early bird price for students who make a payment of \$200.00 by June 24, 2016. Price increases to \$1897.00 after this date.

The program cost includes: Hotel, 3 meals a day, Airfare, transportation in D.C., program materials and theatre.

Costs not included: Baggage fees at airport, snacks and souvenirs.

Payments: A \$400.00 Non-refundable* deposit is due November 20, 2015 payable to Close Up. Deposits will be made to Close UP only when 6 students have enrolled. Checks will be returned and trip cancelled if there are not enough participants.

WE MUST HAVE 6 STUDENTS TO MAKE THE TRIP HAPPEN!!

Additional payments can be paid to directly to Close Up on-line using a credit card or by check, payable to Close Up. Check payments should be given to Mrs. Waltsgott, she will mail them directly to Close Up. Payment dates are:

Early Bird Pricing:	200.00	June 24, 2015
Regular Enrollment:	400.00	Nov. 20, 2015
Second Payment:	400.00	Dec. 20, 2015
Third Payment:	400.00	Jan. 17, 2016
Final Payment:	Balance	Feb. 4, 2016 (NO Refunds after this date)

Will there be fundraising to offset cost? Yes, opportunities will be offered to raise money to offset the cost of the trip. However everyone should plan to pay a good portion out of pocket if the student does not participate in fundraising. *THE ENROLLMENT FEE MUST BE PAID OUT OF POCKET. FUNDRAISING MONIES CAN NOT BE USED FOR DEPOSIT. ALL MONIES RAISED VIA BAKER WILL BE APPLIED TO THE FINAL TOTAL.

Is scholarship funding available? Yes, see Mrs. Waltsgott for an application or go to www.closeup.org, click students & parents, find scholarships on the left, click and download application.

How do I enroll? Once 6 people have committed, Enrollment takes place online, and is a 3 step process. Students committing will receive this information.

Please feel free to call with any questions @ 221-3000, or email @ bwaltsgott@mcpss.com.

Barb Waltsgott
Close Up Sponsor

PS. Students who plan to participate in the program need to attend brief meetings to discuss fundraiser progress and program updates. A calendar of these will be forthcoming with an attempt NOT to interfere with other Baker morning activities.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

This is easy. Just three steps:

1.) The Teacher (Mrs. Waltsgott) will login to the school account at [School Login](#) and enter each participant's name. After each name is entered, the teacher will print the instruction page and give it to that student. These instructions include the Participant ID number and directions on how to complete the enrollment form; then...

2.) Students take the instructions home and [complete the enrollment form](#) online with a parent or guardian. The enrollment page is found in the student parent page, under my account tab. Click on

3.) The Enrollment fee can be paid at the time of enrollment or later, but must be on account by

OTHER INFORMATION

- Fundraising will determine final payment
- Payments can AND should be made anytime before the designated due dates
- Checks should be made payable to Close Up
- Payments can be made by debit or credit card on the Close Up website and is the preferred method
- Donations by family members or businesses are tax deductible and can be made online for immediate deposit to account

REFUNDS

The \$300.00 enrollment fee is non refundable, please see Close Up payment schedule above for cancellation refund information.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Close Up strongly recommends the purchase of Travel Guard Insurance. More information is available on the Close Up site when enrolling.

**CLOSE UP 2015
TRIP INFORMATION**

DEPOSIT OF \$400.00 DUE JANUARY 28, 2015

DEPOSIT MONEY COMES FROM THE STUDENT, NO FUNDRAISING MONEY IS APPLIED TO THE DEPOSIT.

STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE A USER NAME AND PIN NUMBET TO ENROLL ON-LINE.

PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ON-LINE.

PAYMENTS CAN ALSO BE GIVEN TO MRS. WALTSGOTT, CHECK/MONEY ORDERS MADE PAYALBE TO CLOSE UP.

Fundraising Opportunities

- Yankee Candle Sales
- Chick-Fi-La Biscuits
- Letter writing campaign
- Krispy Kreme donuts/coupon sales

Other ideas are welcome!!

If you choose to participate in this program, please complete the form below and return no later than August 31, 2012.

Sincerely,

Barb Waltsgott
Close Up Sponsor

Baker High School
Close Up Commitment Form
2015

I have read the above information and I fully understand that the enrollment fee of \$400.00 is non-refundable and is applied to the full price of the Close Up trip (\$1897.00). (This does not include baggage check at the airport, there and back).

I understand that I am responsible for making the final payment to Close Up either online or by giving Mrs. Waltsgott a check or money order made out to Close Up by January 29, 2015

I understand that fundraising is not a guarantee in paying for the entire trip and I will make up the difference.

I understand that I (the student) will need to attend meetings called by Mrs. Waltsgott to discuss fundraising opportunities and information about the trip.

As the parent I understand that I am required to attend a meeting before the trip to discuss travel and my child's conduct on the trip.

(Student)

(Parent)

(Date)