

## Appendix B: Chaperoning Guidelines

*“To go out of a classroom to enter the outside world, which includes everything, is obviously to open an immense door to instruction.....When the child goes out, it is the world itself that offers itself to him. Let us take the child out to show him real things instead of making objects which represent ideas and closing them in cupboards.”*  
*From Childhood to Adolescence by Dr. Maria Montessori*

Thank you for your willingness to drive and chaperone students for the field trips. We truly appreciate your participation and support. We hope that you enjoy these opportunities, too.

1. The children in your car are your responsibility for the duration of the entire trip.
  - Encourage respectful interactions and conversational tones.
  - Use secure seat belts or booster chairs, as required by law.
  - No food is allowed to be consumed in the car. Choking and food allergies compromise the driver’s ability to keep everyone safe.
  - Electronic games and other devices are not permitted for use by students.
2. To support the academic focus of these trips, siblings are not allowed to attend. During the car ride, the potential for them to distract may cause an unsafe driving situation.
3. Please do not allow students to listen to or watch media (rap songs, news broadcasts, and movies) as the content may not be appropriate for all children.
4. Use cell phones only to contact the teachers in the event you are lost or become separated from the group. Driving and talking on cell phones is not safe and we ask that you honor this request. However, please keep your cell phone turned on in the event that the teacher needs to contact you.
5. Upon arrival, please supervise this group of children during the entire program. Please do not stand in adult groups and talk. Some places provide special instructions for chaperones. Please respectfully follow their directives and do not use this opportunity to make cell phone calls.
6. Please do not stop at gift shops, restaurants, or coffee houses and provide food or shopping opportunities for the students in your car. This generates an inequitable situation between the other students on the trip. It also creates the potential for students with food allergies to be exposed to a difficult choice and health hazard.
7. If you ever have any question about a situation that occurs on the trip, please notify one of your teachers immediately, either personally or by cell phone if you are not in the same location.

**Thank you for your attention to these guidelines and other safe driving practices.**