

Buffalo Jewish Federation

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of your student, Fill in Child's Name to request an excused absence due to their participation in an educational and leadership development activity that they will participate from February 12-20, 2024.

This program is a week-long, hands-on Jewish educational trip to Israel designed specifically for eighth graders. Students who attend this program make a serious commitment of their time and focus. The intense trip itinerary includes visits to sites of biblical, medieval, and modern Israeli history. Students will also learn about Israel's absorption of immigrants from many different parts of the world, as well as its technological and agricultural innovations. They will be exposed to a new language and to Israel's diverse culture and will meet with Israeli peers who will share details on daily life in the Middle East.

Rosov Consulting conducted a mixed methods retrospective study of the program's high school aged alumni including a comparison group of local teens to explore the longer term impact produced by the trip and found that the trip has a profound and transformative effect on their children. We are confident that this years' experience will be just as impactful.

I hope you will respect this letter of excusal so that Fill in Child's Name can ensure that their participation is free of any concern regarding her academic standing. Please note that due to the intense daily schedule, students will have extremely limited time for assignments during the trip. You may want to encourage projects such as reports, presentations, scrapbooks, or picture albums to be shared with fellow students. We are happy to supply supplemental educational material to support such projects.

If you have any further questions, I invite you to contact me. I am happy to provide additional information upon request.

Sincerely,

Thank you for your consideration.



Mike Steklof, Ed.D.
Senior Director of LiNK Jewish Buffalo
P: 716-463-5061
E: mike@buffalojewishfederation.org



338 Harris Hill Rd, Suite 108B, Williamsville, NY 14221
mike@buffalojewishfederation.org • IsraelNowTrip.org