September 2016,

Dear Students and Parents:

Over the past six years Rockridge students have taken part in 4 amazing educational science and business field trips to Orlando, Florida. The Rockridge Science and Business Departments are seeking to determine the level of interest to go back to Orlando, Florida in 2017. This week-long trip will take place April 8th to 16th. This trip is an excellent opportunity for students to gain hands-on, practical experiences in science and business based sessions that support the B.C. curriculum. Each day will focus on a different branch of science or business, and will include an educational program followed by free time to explore and enjoy the facilities of that venue. The exact itinerary is yet to be decided, but activities will be selected from the following:

**Business & Leadership Excellence – Epcot**

**Physics: Properties of Motion – Disney’s Magic Kingdom**

**The Business & Science of the Production Arts – Disney’s Hollywood Studios**

**Zoology – Disney’s Animal Kingdom**

**Biology – Disney’s Animal Kingdom**

**Anatomy of Performance – Cirque du Soleil**

**Roller Coaster Physics and Engineering – Islands of Adventure**

**Finance and Marketing – Universal Studios Resorts**

**Aerospace Science – Kennedy Space Center (NASA)**

An exact cost is difficult to predict at this early stage as there are many factors affecting the final price such as the cost of air travel and the value of the Canadian dollar. Every effort will be made to secure the best adventure for the lowest cost. The maximum cost is estimated to be **$3000 Canadian** for this trip plus personal expenses.

This price includes all of the following:

* return air (including baggage fees), Seattle to Orlando
* bus transfers from Rockridge to Seattle, return
* deluxe trip cancellation insurance and unlimited extended medical insurance while in the USA
* all transfers in Orlando via chartered air-conditioned coach
* accommodation in an all-suite hotel including daily hot buffet breakfast
* admission to all parks on the itinerary
* all educational programs selected by the head teacher
* replacement teachers for days of instruction missed by teacher-chaperones
* some dinners

Students will need to provide their own money for any lunches or dinners not included on the itinerary, and for snacks and any souvenirs or personal purchases.

**Student eligibility for this program requires meeting the following criteria:**

* Date application and deposit are submitted
* Students must be in grade 10 or 11.
* A demonstrated interest and ability in their science or business classes.
* Satisfactory overall academic progress in all subjects continuing up to the date of travel.
* Excellent school citizenship, and a demonstrated responsible and cooperative attitude in all classes.
* Good overall school attendance record.
* Approval from the school board, school administration and sponsor-teacher chaperones.

If you are interested in being considered for inclusion in our 2017 Orlando EDventure, please complete the **application form** and bring it with your deposit to the parent/guardian meeting on **Thursday October 6th, 2016.**

We are expecting a lot of interest in this trip again this year, so **students will be evaluated using the criteria for inclusion on this trip in the order that applications are received.** At this time, we are considering a maximum of 50 students.

All interested students and their parents must come to an information meeting, on **Thursday October 6th at 6:30 pm in the Library**. Following the meeting, you will be asked to confirm your interest with a **$500 cheque** (please make your cheque payable to “Rockridge Secondary School”). In the case of high demand, students will be accepted based on a ‘first come, first serve’ basis and if all other eligibility conditions are met. Students selected for the trip will be informed of their acceptance no later than **Friday, October 21st**. Upon acceptance, informed consent forms and the remaining cost of the trip will be collected immediately by Mr. Dickinson or Mrs. Towers in the Careers Office by post-dated cheques payable for **November 1st, 2016, December 1st, 2016, January 15th, 2017, specific installment amounts will be provided at the October 6th parent meeting.**

Students selected for this trip will be required to attend a series of approximately 8 sessions to cover trip expectations, logistics and educational pre-trip preparation. These meetings will take place starting in January 2017.

The previous trips were very successful in 2010, 2011, 2013 and 2015 and many students claimed that this field trip is one of the best experiences of their entire school life. We hope that your child will agree with them as they join us on our 2017 Orlando “EDventure”!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Towers, Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. Lawson

SCIENCE/BUSINESS FIELD TRIP - ORLANDO, FLORIDA 2017

**Dates of travel:** Departure from Vancouver: Saturday, April 8th, 2017

 Return to Vancouver: Sunday, April 16th, 2017

STUDENT APPLICATION:

Student Name: (first) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (last) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Gender: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent’s Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student’s email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My current science or business teacher (s) are:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons why I should be included in the 2017 Orlando science/business trip:

Student’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I/we have read the information letter dated September 2016 and support my/our child’s application for this trip. I/we understand that a deposit of $500 is due with this application but it does not obligate the school to accept him/her as a participant. . I/we understand that once my child is accepted, the deposit is no longer refundable. If the application is not accepted the deposit will be fully refunded.

Parent’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_