

We are all getting very excited for the Millard North Music Department trip to Orlando. It is a large group of people and we are all working diligently to make sure this trip runs as smoothly as the last.

Many of you have had questions about extending your spring break. We have the answers that will hopefully clarify some things. Some of you have asked about having your student stay in Orlando and do an extended family vacation, or travel to another area before returning to Omaha. This is fine however, we will ask that you purchase a one way return ticket for your student back to Omaha with your family.

We must book the students on group airline contracts for travel. Those contracts allow no room for deviation. When you book an airline ticket for yourself (or small family), you can make changes to those tickets by paying a fee. Unfortunately, with the group air contracts, that type of change is prohibited. We will need to pay for the entire round trip ticket (therefore all of you have this charge figured into the group package rate). Some of you have asked if we can change the return, or use the "credit" from the return at another time. Unfortunately, that is not allowed either. There is no such thing as "credit" on an unused full or portion of a group booked airline ticket.

The directors and travel coordinator have had much discussion about the option of land only packages. We have all decided this is not a feasible option for the group. Booking people as individuals on the same flight as the students does not guarantee they will not be bumped. They will not bump a group; however, they will very easily bump an individual. With the way it has been going with the airlines lately, this is too large of risk for us to take. We do not want students arriving at the airport alone and then trying to find their own way to meet up with the group. This is the same for the frequent flier tickets. You can use those miles to purchase the one-way ticket home; however, we want the students traveling TOGETHER on this group package deal. Frequent flier mile tickets are non-revenue to the airline, and it is not unheard of for a frequent flier ticket user to be cancelled or bumped even up to 2-3 days. As a non-revenue flier, this is not the number one priority of the airlines.

We are very excited to provide this opportunity for your child. We know that, working together, this trip will be both educational and enjoyable for all. Thank you for helping us to create life-long memories for your student.

Sincerely,

The Millard North Music Staff