

## **PERFORMANCE BASED CONTRACT GUIDELINES**

The Connect Kids to Parks NYS grant will allow for many of our students to attend field trips connected to Science and Social Studies through visits to both state parks and historic places. The 2023-2024 grant program allows teachers to apply for grants of up to \$80 per student and \$160 per special education student to pay for school bus transportation and any applicable tolls and admission fees. The program is administered as a reimbursement program to school districts.

This program is open to teachers and their classes in all of the Yonkers Public Schools. We would like to open this opportunity up to 5120 students between October 2023 and May 2024.

This will directly impact students throughout the district, PK-12, and their teachers. This state grant program provides field trips to classes at designated state parks and historic sites, including several community partnerships the YPS has with Philipse Manor Hall and the Old Croton Aqueduct.

Interested teachers will apply for the on the online grant internally through a YPS Microsoft Form (see below) or at <https://forms.office.com/r/tPx1w0ZadH>.



Dr. Matthew Gonzales, the Executive Director of Inquiry, Social Studies & Sciences is the individual responsible for the coordination of grants and services between the school and budget offices. Specifically, Dr. Gonzales will review applications and will collect the paperwork, complete the NYS Connect Kids online application, coordinate buses and sites, work with the instructional budget office to verify paperwork necessary to request, and submit paperwork to YPS and NYS verifying the field trip and requesting reimbursement. The City of Yonkers Finance Department will provide payment to the bus companies and historic sites that charge an admission fee and receive reimbursement from the state.

Information and resources have been shared to all schools through Office of the Executive Director of Social Studies, Division of Teaching and Learning. Parents and guardians will be informed about field trips through their classroom teacher(s) using district procedures, including permission slips and notification to the central office about all off-site trips.

Field Trips are aligned with Goal 1 (Student Achievement) and Goal 4 (Support Student Needs) from the YPS Strategic Plan. Field trips are also aligned with the NYS Social Studies Framework, the NGLS for ELA and Mathematics, and the NYS Science Learning Standards.