

# Blackfeet Immersion Volunteer Experiences

## November 2-9, 2024

### Oki-Ni-Soo-Ka-Wa: Blackfeet Immersion Program

**WHEN:** November 2-9, 2024

**WHO:** 10 Hill-Murray Students & 2 chaperones (Fandrich and Goulet)

**WHAT:** Students will travel from MSP airport to Great Falls, Montana, where we will then travel to the Blackfeet Reservation. Once we have arrived, students will spend a week helping at De La Salle Blackfeet, an elementary school owned by the Christian Brothers located on the Blackfeet Reservation. Students will also hear from various cultural speakers, as well as spend time at Glacier National Park. Students will engage in daily prayer, nightly reflections, activities, and more.

**WHERE:** De La Salle Blackfeet School  
104 First St NW  
Browning, MT 59417

Throughout the week, the groups stay in a "bunkhouse" on the Holy Family Mission property.

**COST:** Airfare, Meals (except travel days), lodging, transportation from the airport, speaker fees, and a trip to Glacier National Park will be covered by the school and are included in the price!

Total Cost Per Student: \$800.00

**Due: Friday, September 27, 2024 (Tads will be charged)**

**APPLICATION:** Students who are interested in attending this amazing opportunity should apply. **Applications are due Friday, September 27, 2024**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Students who are interested in attending must also be in good academic, behavioral, and financial standing with the school. They will miss 4 days of class and are expected to make up the work the teacher requests. There is no internet access during our stay, so doing schoolwork while in Montana will not be possible. Also, they will have little to no Data/Internet access on their phones while at our Bunkhouse but will have Data/internet access in town each day.

## Additional Parent Information

**What is our goal in attending a Service Immersion Trip?** Hill-Murray's goal for attending this trip is for students to grow in their understanding of the Lasallian charisms of social justice and concern for the poor and the Hill-Murray charism. Together, students will grow deeper in their understanding of our call to service, and our roles as leaders in the world. It is our goal, that in attending, students will have the unique opportunity of learning from a place, a people, and a culture much different than that of Hill-Murray while learning how this connects to their place both in school and out.

**Expectations: What are they?** Students will be required to attend several meetings leading up to the trip, it is expected that students will attend all meetings (missing no more than one meeting). These meetings will include important lessons on where the trip is located and who they will be interacting with. Students will have the opportunity to grow in their understanding of social injustices, and their role as Lasallians to care for the poor to better form their experience while on their trip. Parents/guardians will attend 1 meeting before the trip to discuss the outline of the trip, flight information, and more, at least ONE parent/guardian must attend both meetings.

**Why De La Salle Blackfeet** At De La Salle Blackfeet our students will have the opportunity to learn more about the experiences of Native Americans, life and culture on a Native American Reservation, the injustices done to Native Americans, the mission of the Christian Brothers in education as well as their mission to social justice and concern for the poor. For more information and to read student testimonials please visit the attached [website](#)

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Rebecca Fandrich ([rfandrich@hill-murray.org](mailto:rfandrich@hill-murray.org))

## Blackfeet Meeting Schedule

1. **WIN time Meetings:** Students will be required to attend a total of 4 meetings **Students are allowed to miss no more than one meeting.**
    - a. **MONDAY WIN B TIME Meeting Dates:**
      - i. **October 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th**
  2. **Post-Trip Meetings:** A large part of the Immersion Trip is that students bring back what they have learned to enrich our school community. Students will be required to attend post-trip meetings to debrief their experience and plan a service project for the school community.
  3. **Parent/Guardian Meetings:** At least one parent/ guardian must attend 1 meeting before the trip to cover: costs, travel logistics, emergency contact information, and more.
    - a. **Meeting Date: Monday, Oct 28th, 2024--6:00-7:00PM**
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