



## US Class Dean Update

February 26, 2026

Dear Junior Parents and Guardians:

I am writing today about, believe it or not, the 2027 Spring Break “trip to the Bahamas.” While it seems very early to be thinking about your child’s senior year Spring Break, in the past, families have been contacted by the company that runs the trip and asked to make a non-refundable deposit more than a year in advance of the actual trip. Thus, my communication today is about *next year’s* Spring Break.

Please know that this trip is not school-sponsored, school chaperoned, or school sanctioned. It is run by an outside organization that goes to great lengths to create the perception that they are working with D-E to plan the trip. They are not. This trip has taken place for several years and is not chaperoned. The travel company identifies “captains” or trip leaders the year prior to the trip to organize and recruit classmates to go, and those “captains” are then given a free trip. In the past, some parents have gone to the Bahamas with their seniors, possibly staying in a nearby hotel, but they are not there in any official capacity.

As you would imagine, this trip is problematic for us as a school. We are concerned first and foremost about the health and safety of our students, and also about the disruption to our academic program in the weeks and months following Spring Break. After many years of experience with this trip, we know that students often run into trouble while away, making decisions under the influence of drugs and alcohol or other inopportune circumstances, and without the guidance of a formal chaperone, that can have a lasting impact on the health and well-being of our community. When school resumes in April, we often spend the remainder of the year dealing with the consequences of those bad decisions.

The early registration deadline may amplify your child’s fear of missing out, but it typically is not the case that “everyone goes.” It may help you to know that many families encourage their children to explore alternative Spring Break plans, and I encourage you to coordinate with your child’s friends’ families to normalize that decision if it’s the path you choose to take.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. We will continue to strive to help our students celebrate the end of their senior year in safe and productive ways. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,  
Tuc