

## **A note to Senior Current Issues class in regard to our December 17 Holiday trip to Chicago.**

Concerning the "Unofficial Skip Day" on Monday November 28. Those individuals identified by administration as involved in the Skip will not be allowed to participate on the December 17 Holiday trip to Chicago. As a teacher who travels often with students, trust is essential. Since I allow you freedom on the road - in Alabama, in Washington D.C., and in Chicago, I must trust that you are being honest with me in regard to your choices. I must be confident that you make good decisions. I am in some measure responsible for you, when you are traveling with me. I want you to have freedom; that is how you explore and enjoy the experience. If you make rash decisions here, or don't own up to your choices in the school, that is a hint as to how you may act and the decisions you may make in our travels. If I don't feel as though I can trust you, I don't feel comfortable putting my reputation on the line for you.

There was some discussion about those who were unable to go, just driving themselves and meeting up with us in Michigan City or in Chicago on December 17. If you choose that route, there is nothing I can or will attempt to do to stop you. Chicago is lovely at Christmas time and I encourage you to visit. However, by circumventing my decision on this trip, you would be doubling down on one poor decision, with a second. If you choose this route you will not be invited to go with Senior Current Issues to Chicago to work with Refugee One in the Spring.

Also, those individuals, who participated in "Skip Day" will not be removed from the Close UP trip or Selma Trip for this action alone. Sometimes we make poor choices; it isn't the end of the world. In fact it can be a really good learning experience. However, if this becomes one of a series of questionable choices on your part, the incident may contribute to future removal from the group.

Choices are a part of life - good and bad ones. However, we all need to know that they come with consequences. And never forget that whatever you post online, however protected you may think it is, it can always pop up on somebody else's computer. When you travel - be it in Southeast Asia or Mr B's please leave your cell phones at home and be mindful of the moment.

Thank you...

Mr. Wood