



A LETTER TO CHAPERONES:

Dear Chaperone,

Thank you for joining us on _____, _____ at _____ AM/PM for our educational program aboard the *Appledore* where students will engage in a hands-on, outdoor education experiences designed to expand and enhance classroom learning. During this program, students will explore the world around them through a variety of STEM activities while traveling on our local waterways aboard a traditionally-rigged Great Lakes tall ship schooner.

Chaperone Preparedness Guidelines:

- Please dress for cooler weather. The temperature often feels **10 to 20 degrees cooler** on the boat than on land due to wind and cooler water temperatures.
- The program will take place rain or shine (with the exception of severe weather) and there is little space for cover on board the vessel. Please bring a rain jacket or poncho if precipitation is in the forecast.
- You will be walking on a painted steel boat deck and therefore BaySail requires passengers to wear closed-toed shoes that do not slip on/off.
- Upon arrival, passengers will receive pre-boarding safety instructions. Following shipboard rules is vital to a safe and successful trip. Horseplay will not be tolerated.
- Students will be split into 2-3 small groups while aboard. BaySail requests that one chaperone remains with each group at all times in order to assist with behavior management and ensure full student participation. Please encourage your group to engage and work collaboratively with one another.
- BaySail prides itself on its award-winning, inquiry-based programming. Many questions will be posed to students in order to facilitate learning and higher-level thinking. Our educators are fully trained in these techniques and we ask that you help to provide a safe space for students to share their ideas and refrain from answering questions yourself or providing answers to the students.
- The vessels provide a unique learning opportunity that also provide a unique learning environment. Please follow cues from the crew to aid in quieting the students when appropriate so that the crew can work safely. The open air classroom often makes it difficult to hear at even short distances. Please also discourage side conversations during lessons and model the same behavior for the students.

Thank you for sharing your time with us on board! BaySail is a private, non-profit organization that owns and operates the schooners *Appledore IV* and *Appledore V* and provides award-winning environmental education programming to over 1700 students each year. More information about BaySail can be found at www.baysailbaycity.org.

Sincerely,

Emily Nummer