

Greetings: The Fort Atkinson Rendezvous “SCHOOL DAY” will be on **Friday, September 27, 2024**. Please let me know the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Town/City  
\_\_\_\_\_ (WILL) or \_\_\_\_\_ (WILL NOT) be attending the event  
\_\_\_\_\_ grade level(s) of students attending  
\_\_\_\_\_ approximate total number of students \_\_\_\_\_ approximate number of adults  
School contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Details:

**Subject:** Field Trip for students to visit the military post of Fort Atkinson

**Event:** Fort Atkinson Rendezvous “School Day”

**Date:** Friday, September 27, 2024

**Times:** 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Cost:** no charge; “free” for all students, teachers, bus drivers, chaperones, etc.

**Arrival:** any time from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Bus your students up to the front gate of the Fort for unloading. Park the bus below the hill by the community center in the designated area.

**Upon Arrival:** Once unloaded, please form your groups. Chaperones will be given a self-guided tour packet with a map with stopping points, each stop will have a tour guide that will tell you about that area of the Fort.

**Food** limited food is provided on the fort grounds. Most schools bring sack lunches & a drink for students to have for dinner at noon.

**Portable restrooms:** will be located outside the front gate to the northeast; blue in color.

**Demonstrations:** will begin at 10:30 a.m. Students should remain attentive & quiet during presentations until it is time for questions from the audience.

**We have interpretive signs, and we ask that students not lean on these signs.**

**A ‘cannon shoot’ will take place at 11:30 am in the middle of the fort grounds.** Then time can be taken for lunch.

**Items to see:** approximately 75 tents & teepees will be set up on the fort grounds with all participants dressed in 1840s time-period costume. Trade blankets will be laid out with pioneer items/ artifacts for students to observe. Lots of pioneer items are also for sale in the tent displays.

**Conclusion today:** everything concludes at 2:00 p.m.

**Items for purchase by students:** upon conclusion of the pioneer ‘root beer’ talk, the presenter usually offers small cups of root beer for a nominal fee. Fur skins, kettle corn, and lots of other pioneer items are for sale around the grounds (you will have to decide whether students can bring money to purchase such items). Fry bread might be available. Bottled water will be available for purchase at the information center just inside the gate of the Fort for \$ 1.00 per bottle.

**CODE OF CONDUCT WHILE ATTENDING OUR EVENT.** We would ask that students respect our volunteer guides and listen to what is said during the tour. We also ask that cell phones be used for pictures only. This is meant to be an educational day for students!

I hope that it works out for you to bring your students to our Rendezvous “school day” on **Friday, September 27, 2024**. We continue to provide this historic event **free-of-charge** to make it easier for schools to participate.

**A PREVIEW VIDEO OF THE RENDEZVOUS CAN BE SEEN <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks/Iowa-State-Parks/Fort-Atkinson-State-Preserve>. We will be giving each attendee a Fort Atkinson Rendezvous “Wooden Nickel”.**

***E-MAIL INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO: Michele at [elsbobm@gmail.com](mailto:elsbobm@gmail.com). When you notify us, you plan to attend we will send your school the “educational school packet” and map of the Rendezvous grounds for your information.***