

NJCAA Football Championship

When: Thursday, December 5, 2019, 5 p.m. kickoff

Where: Carnie Smith Stadium, Pittsburg, Kansas

Group tickets: PSU Ticket Office, 620-235-4796

Additional information: Crawford County Convention & Visitors Bureau, 620-231-1212

STEP 1: Determine Academic Stopping Point

Knowing where you want to stop before speaking with administrators will help the process go smoothly.

Call ahead to make plans with these locations. Most are free but if they have an entry fee, many offer group rates. Tours and other group activities are regularly available as well.

<i>If coming from the north</i>		
Attraction (Location)	Description	Main Phone
Fort Scott National Historic Site (Fort Scott)	1800's gateway to the West, Permanent Indian Frontier, the Mexican-American War, Bleeding Kansas, Civil War, and the expansion of railroads.	620-223-0310
Gordon Parks Museum (Fort Scott)	Honors the life of the internationally-known black artist, and explores artistic creativity, cultural awareness, and the role of diversity in our lives.	620-223-2700 ext 5850
Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes (Fort Scott)	Exhibition of little known individuals whose courage, compassion & conviction show the power one person has to better the lives of others & impact the course of history.	620-223-1312
Miners Hall Museum (Franklin)	Discover how coal mining forged a blended heritage of the different ethnic groups who settled in the region, and why a 1921 women's protest made national headlines.	620-347-4220

<i>From the southeast</i>		
Attraction (Location)	Description	Main Phone
Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center (Joplin)	Conservation area with extensive walking trails, a museum, and wildlife programs and activities.	417-782-6287
Baxter Springs Heritage Center and Museum	Includes exhibits from various eras: Native American, Civil War, Cowtown Days, Mining, the World War's, Historic Route 66, and the areas baseball history.	620-856-2385
Decades of Wheels (Baxter Springs)	Sitting on Historic Route 66, a tribute to cars and motorcycles throughout history, including famous Hollywood movie cars like the Batmobile.	620-304-2222
Galena Mining & Historical Museum	Includes an oil painting collection once displayed in the Smithsonian Institution, and is partially located in a railroad depot moved to the location on Historic Route 66.	620-783-2192

<i>From the southwest</i>		
Attraction (Location)	Description	Main Phone
Dalton Defenders Museum (Coffeyville)	The last of the Wild West bank robberies ended with a shootout. Also includes display about MLB Hall of Famer Walter "Big Train" Johnson, who was from the area.	620-251-5944
Big Brutus (West Mineral)	The world's largest electric shovel is a tribute to the region's mining heritage. Get a team photo inside the bucket – it filled three railroad cars with one scoop.	620-827-6177

<i>From the northwest</i>		
Attraction (Location)	Description	Main Phone
Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum (Chanute)	Experience the lives of world travelers whose films and books of distant exotic lands captured the public's imagination in the early 1900's.	620-431-2730
St. Francis Catholic Church (St. Paul)	The 3 rd Catholic parish established in Kansas (1847), the existing historic church was built in 1884 using native sandstone in a Romanesque Revival style.	620-449-2224
Osage Mission Museum (St. Paul)	Learn the history of what were originally an Indian mission and school (1847), and remains of the longest standing location of a school in Kansas.	620-449-2320

<i>For Locals</i>		
Attraction (Location)	Description	Main Phone
Block22	Tour to see how \$20 million in renovations have brought new life to historic buildings in downtown Pittsburg	(620) 235-4920
Colonial Fox Theatre	See firsthand a theater that transformed from the vaudeville to moving pictures during the coal mining era, and learn its future.	620-235-0622
Crawford County Historical Museum	Includes exhibits from the frontier, Civil War, and mining eras.	620-231-1440
Veterans Memorial Amphitheater	A plaza that features a retired replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall that once toured the country.	620-235-4768

STEP 2: Get permission for field trip

Address with administrators:

- Why you want to take your team to the National Championship
- How the trip benefits them as students
- Proposed itinerary for the day
- How paying for the trip

Below is a **SAMPLE** request. Feel free to copy and paste this letter, but be sure to update the name of the administrator you are sending it to, where you plan to get tours, and why you chose those locations.

SUBJECT: School-related student trip proposal

Principal Kelynn Heardt,

Our high school football team has an opportunity to see firsthand the end results of goal setting, determination, and hard work by attending the NJCAA Football National Championship on Thursday, December 5 in Pittsburg.

But, this would not just be a “sports trip” for the student-athletes who choose to attend. The team wants to leave early enough to get guided tours of the Pittsburg State campus and the Colonial Fox Theatre. While many of our students have been on the PSU campus, most know little about the college itself. Touring the Fox will show students firsthand how this historic building has evolved through the decades, from vaudeville to moving pictures, to live concerts, and what its future looks like.

Proposed itinerary for Friday, March 1, 2019:

- 11:45 a.m. - Depart Pittsburg High School
- 12:00 p.m. - Tour Colonial Fox Theatre in Downtown Pittsburg (no cost)
- 1:30 p.m. – Russ Hall at PSU for campus tour (no cost)
- 3:00 p.m. – Eat before game at Gorilla Village (each pays for own at food trucks available)
- 4:00 p.m. – Gates open at Carnie Smith Stadium, with kickoff at 5 p.m. (\$5 group rate, Booster Club has agreed to pay)
- 9:00 p.m. – Estimated time to arrive back at PHS

Thank you for considering this field trip.

Signed,

Jeff Staley
Activities Director, Pittsburg High School

STEP 3: Get your tickets

Regular tickets may be purchased online: \$15 for General Admission or \$10 for Students or Senior Citizens. To receive a special group rate being offered to high school football teams - \$5 each for groups of 10 or more – please call the PSU Ticket Office directly at 620-235-4796. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets will go on sale Wednesday, September 4.

STEP 4: Reserve your PSU campus tour

Several options are available for touring PSU. Typically, their regular daily tours are offered at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m., but with the number of expected requests, please contact them ahead of time to both confirm times and make sure they are prepared. PSU prefers to schedule their visits via online: <https://admission.pittstate.edu/visit-campus.html>

STEP 5: Find a place to eat for large groups

- **North end of Pittsburg:** Applebee's, Arby's, Buffalo Wild Wings, Chili's, El Charro, Long John Silver's, McDonald's, Oriental Star, Rib Crib, Sonic, Subway, Wendy's
- **On the campus of Pittsburg State:** Gibson Dining Hall, Gorilla Crossing (inside student center, numerous options available including deli, pizza, burgers, etc.)
- **Just off campus:** Braum's, Chatters, Domino's, Freddy's Frozen Custard, Guadalajara Mexican Grill, Hardee's, Jimmy John's, KFC, Lotus Express, Mazzio's, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Smokey Racks BBQ, Subway, Taco Bell, Typhoon Thai Cuisine
- **Pittsburg's Meadowbrook Mall** (south end of town): Café Del Rio, Gusano's Pizzeria, Mall Deli