

WATSON-BROWN FOUNDATION BUSING GRANTS



WHAT?: These are grants issued by the Watson-Brown Foundation to schools and school districts in the CSRA to bring their students to Watson-Brown historic sites in Thomson, GA for academic field trips. A second initiative issues grants to schools and school districts to bring their students on two day-long excursions to the McDuffie Environmental Education Center (the MEEC) and one of the Watson-Brown historic sites. The grants cover the cost of a school bus, a driver, fuel, and, if necessary, a substitute teacher. These amounts are set by the school district.

WHEN?: The Watson-Brown Foundation busing grants are available from September through May.

WHERE?:

Option 1: This option provides grants for trips only to the Watson-Brown Foundation historic sites – Hickory Hill, the Tom Watson House, the Monroe Kimbrel Gardens, the J.J. Brown Butterfly Garden, and the Tom Watson Birthplace.

Option 2: This option provides grants for two ½ day trips: one half day to the MEEC and one half-day to a Watson-Brown campus. The programming will be complementary (i.e., butterfly comparisons, water quality, etc). This option requires advanced scheduling and confirmation between the visiting teachers, and the education staff of both the MEEC and the Watson-Brown Foundation.

WHY?: The Watson-Brown Foundation supports education in the South, in part, through its grant programs. This initiative recognizes that students benefit from interactive learning experiences outside the classroom. The Foundation seeks to broaden its connections with educators and students by hosting them and their students at our historic sites and providing dynamic learning opportunities. The Foundation works with the MEEC to offer additional diverse programming and to promote environmental education opportunities in McDuffie County.

HOW?:

- 1) Contact the Watson-Brown Foundation to schedule a field trip.
- 2) Contact your District's busing garage to arrange for transportation.
- 3) Upon scheduling a trip with the Watson-Brown Foundation, you will receive an official *Watson-Brown Foundation Busing Grant Form*. After the field trip, simply return this completed form to the Watson Brown Foundation.

To be successfully reimbursed, the form requests a breakdown of all the costs incurred for the field trip; this includes the cost of the bus(s), driver(s), fuel, and (if applicable) a substitute teacher. The form also requires the signatures of the lead teacher planning the trip, and either the District's Assistant-Superintendent for Curriculum, the Busing Supervisor, or an Assistant Principal.

WHO?: Watson-Brown Foundation; Contact: Sydney Peden, Education Coordinator; 502 Hickory Hill Drive, Thomson, GA 30824; 706-595-7777 or sfpeden@hickory-hill.org; www.hickory-hill.org or www.watson-brown.org