



ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL

...be Extraordinary

Dear St. Pius X Students and Parents:

I would like to share with you an exciting opportunity that we are offering students here at St. Pius X High School. I will lead a group of St. Pius X students on a hands-on study visit to our nation's capital. We will be participating in the **Close Up Foundation's Washington, D.C. & Williamsburg trip November 13th – 19th, 2016.**

The Close Up Foundation is the nation's largest non-profit and non-partisan citizenship education organization. Since 1971, Close Up has worked with students and educators across the country to promote active citizenship. Through seminars with Washington policymakers and explorations of government offices and historical sites, high school students get a "close-up" look at our nation's heritage and the processes of democracy. This week-long program prepares young citizens to meet the challenges of governing themselves and their nation through the following:

- Discussions of key domestic and international issues with members of Congress, Washington insiders and other leading policy experts;
- A comprehensive study visit to the significant historical sites and cultural neighborhoods of our nation's capital;
- Daily small group discussions and workshops with other students across the country that encourage students to explore and grapple with current issues; and
- An opportunity to earn college credit through the University of Virginia.

Please check out the Close Up trip to D.C. page on St. Pius X's website at <http://www.stpius.com/close-up-trip.html> and Close Up's website at <https://www.closeup.org/program/high-school> to review informational brochures, schedules, and videos for the Close Up Washington program our students will be participating in. We will hold an informational meeting for students on **Wednesday, May 18th** and a meeting at the beginning of next school year for students and parents. Please do not hesitate to contact me anytime this summer for more information about the trip and/or to sign your child up for the trip. You can contact me by phone at 314-560-0337 or email at ssmith@stpius.com

Sincerely,

Mr. Steve Smith