

**AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION OF CLEMENTE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE CLOSE UP WASHINGTON,
D.C. PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Authorize participation to Clemente High School in the Close Up Washington, D.C. program for 15 (fifteen) students from June 12-18, 2005 in the New Americans Close Up Program and authorize travel and other expenses related to the program. The Program is organized through the Office of Language and Cultural Education, Dropout Prevention/Newcomer Program Grant. Information pertinent to this Program is stated below:

USER: Clemente High School
1147 N. Western Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60622
Irene M. DaMota
773 534-4000

PROGRAM:

The Close Up Foundation is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, non-sectarian civic educational organization whose mission is to expose both teachers and students to the process of democracy and our national heritage and the Foundation offers a program called Close Up Washington. By participating in this program, students will gain greater understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a participatory democracy; students will be able to explain diverse points concerning current domestic and international policy questions facing Congress, the executive branch, and/or the courts; students will appreciate the complexity of political issues and processes; and more importantly, students will appreciate that one person can make a difference and that everyone should make the effort. The Program is held in Washington, D.C. It promotes civic education throughout the year through curriculum-based activities. Fully supervised programs begin on Sunday, June 12, 2005 and conclude on Saturday, June 18, 2005. Each day is completely scheduled and structured for students and teachers. Teachers are expected to participate in student/and or teacher seminars daily. Students recommended for the program should be enrolled in grades 9-12 grade. It is suggested that student candidates be composed of students who currently are or were in a bilingual program as an English Language Learner and demonstrate leadership qualities. Fifteen students and three chaperones from Clemente High School are participating. The grant will cover the expenses for 15 students. Close up will pay for three chaperones and Project Director. Arrangements at Clemente have been made for all fifteen students to take their final exams prior to June 12, 2005.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE/OUTCOMES: Student participants will have a great opportunity to learn firsthand about the workings of the government and the responsibilities they hold as citizens of the United States. Activities are designed to introduce students to the history, politics and culture of the nation's capitol. Students will participate in small-group seminars and workshops, meetings with congressional members, lobbyists, and embassy officials and visit museums and monuments. This is an unparalleled learning experience that will enable both students and teachers to return to their home schools with increased knowledge that will be invaluable to the classroom environment.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS/TRIP INFORMATION: Travel to Washington, D.C. will be made by airplane. Ground transportation will consist of buses provided by the Close Up Foundation.

COST: The cost per pupil is \$1309, which includes transportation, meals and hotel costs. The Office of Language and Cultural Education, Dropout Prevention Project grant, will pay the cost. The funds required for the program will be transferred to Clemente High School. Clemente High School will process final payment to the Close Up Foundation.

CHAPERONES: Trained and certified specialists will be provided by the Close Up Foundation to chaperone students. There will be at least one adult chaperone for every eight students. Three teacher coordinators will accompany students to Washington D.C. The teacher coordinators, while in

Washington, will participate in seminars structured specifically for teachers. Teacher coordinators, nevertheless, will communicate with their students and Project Director on a daily basis while in Washington, D.C.

Supervision of students will be provided for this program pursuant to Board Report 03-0527-PO01 ("Policy on Student Travel"), including proper ratio of students to adults.

Traveling with the students will be Maria Elena Lozano (Teacher), Jesus Vargas (Teacher), and Maria Bermudez (Teacher).

WATER ACTIVITIES: The students who are scheduled to participate in the Close Up New American program will not be participating in any water related activities. Additionally, students and parents/guardians will sign a form reflecting the Chicago Public School's policy regarding water activities.

PARENTAL CONSENT: Written parental consent and release forms for each student will be on file at the respective schools.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the President and Secretary to execute any travel agreements necessary for this program.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Pursuant to Section 3.7 of the Revised Remedial Plan for Minority and Women Business Enterprise Contract Participation (M/WBE Plan) this contract is exempt from review because the contract is for tuition.

LSC REVIEW: Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL: Charge to Office of Language and Cultural Education:

Budget Classification: 0460-268-984-1052-5420

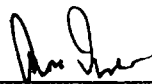
\$19,635 FY 2005 Source of Funds Title VII

Approved for Consideration:



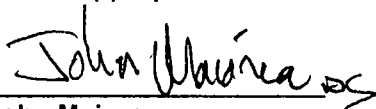
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form: 



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel