

**APPROVE THE PARTICIPATION OF BUILDING WITH BOOKS TREK FOR KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM
IN AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO MALI, WEST AFRICA**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Approve the participation of eight (8) Senn, Curie, Hancock, Jones, and Payton high school students in conjunction with Building with Books (BwB) Trek for Knowledge in an educational tour to Mali, West Africa from June 21 to July 8, 2006.

USER: Building with Books Trek for Knowledge
Jake Sgambati
230 W Monroe Suite #520
Chicago, IL 60606
312-288-0737

PROGRAM: Throughout the school year, Building with Books Club members work hard at fundraising to sponsor the construction of a BwB Sister Schoolhouse in one of the countries where BwB is working. Every single dollar that BwB Club members raise goes to support their Sister Schoolhouse construction. The Trek offers Club members the opportunity to see and participate, first-hand, in the result of their fundraising work. The Trek also demonstrates the important thread of community service that runs through all that BwB does. On the Sister Schoolhouse construction site, BwB Members work alongside community members who volunteer their time for the good of the project. The greatest portion of the Trek Team's travel will be spent in the rural Trek village. The Team's daily schedule will revolve around work on the construction site, as well as exploration of the lifestyle and culture of the host village. Four hours/day will be spent working on the construction site.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE/OUTCOMES: To provide an opportunity for both teachers and students to participate in the construction of a BwB schoolhouse in one of our project countries, to be immersed in a new and different culture, and to return the knowledge gained from the Trek experience to their classrooms, programs, and communities.

Teachers will be able to:

- better utilize BwB materials and resources in their classroom
- increase their knowledge of other cultures and communities
- enhance learning environment for students
- encourage more participation in BwB Program

Students will be able to:

- increase their knowledge of other cultures and communities
- better understand BwB's mission and goals
- share knowledge with classmates and other community members

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS/TRIP INFORMATION: Arrangements for this program are being made by Building with Books staff and personnel in Chicago and Mali.

COST: The per person cost is \$2300.00 which includes transportation, meals, hotel, costs, health and accident insurance, trip cancellation insurance, etc. The costs will be paid by Building with Books with no cost to Chicago Public Schools.

CHAPERONES: 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 Fanny Clonch (Senn high school teacher), Steven Casteel (Roosevelt high school teacher), Mericor Kimoto (Schurz high school teacher), and Sofia Villafuerte (Curie high school teacher).

PARENTAL CONSENT: Written parental consent and release forms for each student are on file at each school, and at the Building with Books office at 230 W Monroe Suite #520.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

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

FINANCIAL: No cost to the Board.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General – Each party to any agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts – Any agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one-year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.


Contingent Liability – Any agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



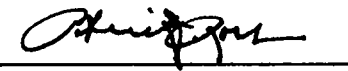
Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Noted:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel

