

**APPROVE THE PARTICIPATION OF SELECTED CHICAGO PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO HAMBURG, GERMANY**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve the participation of eleven (11) Chicago public high school students in an educational tour program to Hamburg, Germany, from June 16 to July 1, 2006.

**PROGRAM:** The German-American National Congress (DANK: Deutsch-Amerikanischer National Kongress) is sponsoring the seventh student exchange between the schools of the city of Chicago and Hamburg, Germany. A group of 25 Chicago students, along with teacher chaperones, visited Hamburg in March, 1998. The host high school in Hamburg is the Christianeum Gymnasium, in the suburb of Othmarschen near the Elbe River. The students from Chicago will attend daily classes at Christianeum Gymnasium and will be engaged in daily educational activities and several field trips during their stay in Germany, including a trip to the city of Berlin.

The students selected to participate in the program have had at least two years of German language study and have demonstrated a strong proficiency in German. Additionally, they must be at least 16 years of age and be in the top of their class academically. Tentatively, there will be ( 1) student from Lane Tech High School, four students (4) from Lincoln Park High School, one (1) student from Mather High School, two (2) students from Northside College Prep, and three (3) students from Amundsen High School.

**EDUCATION VALUE/OUTCOMES:** Past visits to Hamburg have resulted in improved grades in German classes and in other academic subjects because of the instructional stimulus. The trips have also generated strong friendships between Chicago and Hamburg students, and some students have even visited each other on their own during subsequent trips.

**TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS/TRIP INFORMATION:** Arrangements for this trip are being handled by Dr. Lowell W. Culver at Governors State University, who is the head of the Education Subcommittee of the Chicago-Hamburg Sister Cities Committee. Travel will be via British Midland Airlines, departing from O' Hare Airport.

**COST:** No cost to the Chicago Public Schools. While in Hamburg, lodging and food will be provided by host families without cost to the participants, but each participant is required to pay \$1,000 for airfare and \$59 for medical and liability insurance. No Scholarships will be provided by the Chicago Sister Cities Committee to help defray the costs of the airfare. Fund-raising efforts and parental payments will result in there being no cost to the Chicago Public Schools for this educational exchange program.

**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.

The Chicago Public Schools teachers who will be participating in this trip are Mr. Tom Mead (Teacher, Mather High School), Ms. Holly Kumpf (Teacher, Amundsen High School), and Ms. Virginia Apel (Teacher, Northside College Prep).

**PARENTAL CONSENT:** Parental consent and liability release forms for each student are on file at the respective schools providing indemnification for the school, school personnel, the Chicago Public Schools, the German American National Congress, and the Chicago-Hamburg Sister Cities Committee.

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

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Affirmative Action review is not applicable to this report.

**LSC REVIEW:** Local School approval is not applicable.

**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 Board of Trustees 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 to be a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

**Approved for Consideration:**



Barbara Eason-Watkins  
Chief Education Officer

**Approved:**

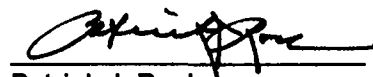


Arne Duncan  
Chief Executive Officer

**Noted:**

  
John Maiorca  
Chief Financial Officer

**Approved as to legal form:**

  
Patrick J. Rocks  
General Counsel