

APPROVE THE PARTICIPATION OF CURIE METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL IN AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO ALAJUELA, COSTA RICA AND AUTHORIZE TRAVEL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

The approval of the participation of twenty (20) Curie Metropolitan High School students in an educational tour to Alajuela, Costa Rica from July 10-24, 2005 and authorize travel expenses related to the program if any.

USER: Curie Metropolitan High School
4959 S Archer Avenue
773-535-2137
User: Kristina M. Harlan
lamaestra00@hotmail.com

PROGRAM: Students will have the opportunity to travel throughout Costa Rica while adding to their knowledge of Spanish. Students will first travel to Alajuela, Costa Rica to participate in a Spanish Language Immersion Program through *The Learning Trips*. The trip will continue on to the Soto Ranch in Moravia de Chirripo, the Arenal Volcano region, Guanacaste and return to Alajuela. At each location, the students will receive daily group language classes with no more than five participants. All teens are placed in-group classes according to their language ability. The students will also participate in a variety of cultural activities at each location.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE/OUTCOMES: The students who are able to participate in this program will benefit greatly in terms of language learning and cultural knowledge. Through the immersion program, the students will experience the language in a way, which is different from the regular classroom setting. In participating in the organized activities as well as in their daily interactions with the people around them, the students will gain an immense amount of knowledge about the culture and traditions of Costa Rica. The students will be given pre-assessments as well as post-assessments to help determine the overall educational value of the experience. They will return with a deeper appreciation of the different perspectives with which people view the world. The program will help them to better understand the global society in which we all live today.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS/TRIP INFORMATION: Arrangements for this program are being made by:
Charles Hills
International Sales Director – *The Learning Trips*
7280 W Palmetto Park Rd. - Suite 305 N
Boca Raton, Florida 33433
708-250-3041
info@thelearningtrips.com

COST: The per pupil cost for the land package is \$1500 which includes airport pick-up and drop-off, accommodations, 2 meals per day, daily language and culture instruction, organized educational activities, city tours, bilingual naturalist guides, all taxes, tips, transfers, admission fees and transportation within Costa Rica. A comprehensive travel Insurance program is also offered at an additional cost. The airfare will be approximately \$500; the total cost per student will be \$2000. The costs will be paid by student contributions and fundraising efforts.

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 following Curie teachers will serve as chaperones: Kristina Harlan (IB Spanish Teacher), Aracelis Correa (Heritage Language/IB Spanish Teacher), Rebecca Torres (Heritage Language/IB Spanish

Teacher) and Scott Engstrom (Social Studies Teacher).

PARENTAL CONSENT: Written parental consent and release forms for each student are on file at Curie Metropolitan High School.

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

LSC REVIEW: This action was approved by the LSC for Curie Metropolitan High School on Tuesday, October 19, 2004.

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.

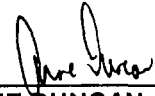
Contingent Liability – Any agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



BARBARA EASON-WATKINS
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



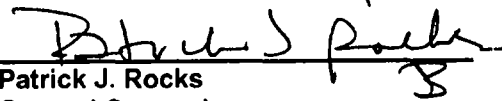
ARNE DUNCAN
Chief Executive Officer

Noted:



JOHN MAIORCA
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel