

AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION IN THE CLOSE UP WASHINGTON, D.C. PROGRAM BY THE OFFICE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL EDUCATION AND AUTHORIZE TRAVEL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Authorize participation of a total of 12 students from Chase, Chopin and Talcott Elementary Schools from June 4th through June 8th, 2006 and the Project Director in the New Americans Close Up Washington Program and authorize travel and other expenses related to the program not to exceed \$16,000.00. 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: Office of Language and Cultural Education
125 S. Clark – 11th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Manuel J. Medina
773 553-1930

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. The supervised program begins on Sunday, June 4th and concludes on Thursday, June 8th. Each day is scheduled and structured with educational activities for students and teachers. Teachers are expected to participate in student/and or teacher seminars daily. Students recommended for the program are enrolled in 6th, 7th or 8th grade, and are current or former English Language Learners and have demonstrated leadership qualities.

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 \$1144.00 which includes transportation, meals and hotel costs. The grant will cover the expenses for 12 students and two chaperones. The cost will be paid by the Dropout Prevention Project grant.

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 Salvador Gonzalez (Principal Chopin Elementary), Rolando Guzman (Teacher Talcott Elementary), Janette Ramirez (Teacher Chase Elementary), and Edwin Rivera (Language and Cultural Project Director).

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 four students. No more than twelve students are participating in the program. One teacher coordinator from each school and the Dropout Prevention/Newcomer Project Director will accompany students to Washington D.C.

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.

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

FINANCIAL: Charge to Office of Language and Cultural Education: \$16,000 Fiscal Year 2006
Budget Classification: 0460-268-984-1052-5410 - \$12,808
0460-268-984-1052-5113 - \$6,000

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.

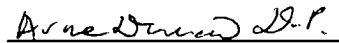
Contingent Liability – Any agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



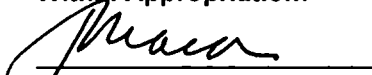
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



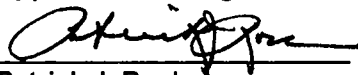
Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel