



Board Action Required

No Action Required

To: Coppell ISD Board of Trustees
From: Carolyn Daniel
Date: September 28, 2015
cc: Dr. Mike Waldrip, Leanne Shivers

Re: Proposed March, 2016 New Tech High @ Coppell LOTE Trip to Spain

The NTH@C LOTE team is working on an opportunity for our advanced language learners. We would really like to offer them a language experience outside of our community. We would like to take them to San Sebastián, Spain for a week. We are looking at doing this during the school year (March 13-20, 2016).

The participants are carefully paired up and live with pre-screened Spanish families. The families are instructed to speak Spanish and are experienced with housing language students. In the morning, they will walk in groups to a designated meeting spot. In the afternoons, the learners have the option of: going on a tour of San Sebastián, a tapas tour, a hike in Mont Urgull Park, taking Flamenco classes, visiting the Aquarium, visiting historic and scenic Monte Igueldo, visiting the Guggenheim museum in Bilbao, visiting St. Jean de Luz or Biarritz, France (all of these done in Spanish). In the mornings, the learners would take 4 hours of intensive language courses after being assessed (written and orally) by their Spanish teachers. They will be assigned to a specific class based on their current language ability. The participants follow a very strict daily schedule.

This experience would provide our Advanced Spanish learners with authentic exposure and practice with the language, as well as a deeper understanding of Spanish culture. Learners will engage in real-life application of the Advanced Spanish curriculum.

We would depart for Bilbao on Sunday, March 13th, and would return on Sunday, March 20th. Participants would not miss any days of school as those dates correspond with Coppell ISD's Spring Break. Two sponsors, Carolyn Daniel and Mark Granado, as well as an administrator, would travel with the participants and would help to supervise them during meals, activities, and classes. The sponsors will also conduct random check-ins while participants are with their host families. The participants will be traveling by air to/from Spain and will travel by private bus once in Spain. The cost will be \$1995 plus airfare, all of which will be provided by the students. Participants will pay SPI directly and will book their own airfare on pre-determined flights.

According to Board Policy FMG (Local), "International trips shall require the approval of the principal, the assistant superintendent for business and support services, the Superintendent, and the Board."

Recommendation: That the Coppell ISD Board of Trustees, as required by Board Policy FMG (Local), approve the NTH@C LOTE trip to San Sebastián, Spain from March 13, 2016 through March 20, 2016