



Board Meeting Date: 4/17/23

Title: EHS Career and Technology Japan Travel Experience 2024

Type: Discussion

Presenters: Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning; and Jenn Carter, Edina High School Assistant Principal

Description: In accordance with Policy 538, the following international student travel experience for up to 25 Edina High School students for 9 days in June 2024 has received support from the school’s administration. Participating students will not miss any school days for this summer travel experience.

This expedition is coordinated by Education First (EF), an experiential education company. EF believes “that the world is better when people try to understand one another. Since 1965, EF has helped millions of people see new places, experience new cultures, and learn new things about the world and about themselves.”

The current itinerary is broken down into the following days:

Day 1:	Travel overnight to Tokyo
Day 2 - 3:	Take a guided tour of Tokyo with a Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) expert, Explore the Shibuya District, Ascend Tokyo Skytree, Visit the Miraikan Science Museum
Day 4:	Take a guided tour of the Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park Visit the Toshiba Science Museum in Kawasaki Prepare your dinner at a cooking class led by a local Japanese chef
Day 5:	Travel on a day-trip to Tsukuba Take a guided tour of the AIST's Science Square Take a guided tour of the KEK, a High Energy Accelerator Research Organization Participate in a hands-on workshop at a premier research organization



DEFINING EXCELLENCE

Day 6	Take a tour of Akihabara Electric Town Visit the Hamarikyu Japanese Gardens Enjoy a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony
Day 7	Travel on another day-trip to Tsukuba Take a guided tour of JAXA, the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency Learn about Hybrid assistive limb technology at cyberdyne studios
Day 8	Travel on a day-trip to the Yamanashi Prefecture Explore the interactive exhibits at the Maglev Exhibition Center See Mount Fuji
Day 9	Travel back to USA

In addition to providing growth opportunities for students across the Edina Public Schools Portrait of a Well-Rounded Graduate, such as Globally Competent Individual, Effective Communicator and Collaborator, and Responsible and Engaged Citizen, this STEM student travel experience supports learning across numerous Minnesota Science, Math, Social Studies, and Language Arts standards to further create this holistic view of the learner. Some examples of standards that will be met include Science 9.2.2.2.1 An object's mass and the forces on it affect the motion of an object; Math 9.3.4.2 Solve real-world and mathematical geometric problems using algebraic methods; Social Studies 9.2.3.4.2 Economic systems differ in the ways that they address the three basic economic issues of allocation, production and distribution to meet society's broad economic goals; and Language Arts 11.13.9.9 Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible.

COST: The anticipated inclusive cost of this experience is approximately \$5,351 per student. This price is inclusive of all transportation, accommodations, meals, transfers, on-site medical staffing, and medical and repatriation insurance. Students will be responsible for all costs. There will be need-based scholarships and other scholarships offered. There will also be extensive fundraising opportunities and EF partners on scholarships. Some of these fundraising opportunities may include having the students learn how to use the dye sublimation equipment to make personalized tote bags, bucket hats, key chains, t-shirts, towels, etc, and then sell those items. Another opportunity is for the students to learn how to make soaps to sell. Part of the plan for these fundraising opportunities is to have the students not only sell items but learn how to make the items, further enriching their STEM skills.



TRANSPORTATION: All students and chaperones will travel as a group from Minneapolis to Tokyo, Japan and return via a major U.S. international airline or partner.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Students and chaperones will be housed in groups of 3-4 hotel accommodations

SUPERVISION: Staff members traveling with the group are Shannon Seaver and Jodi Ramirez, EHS Career and Technical Education teachers and up to three (2) additional licensed staff, one of which will be a licensed school administrator.

Recommendation: Discuss the student travel experience. The experience will be brought back to the board for approval on 5.15.23.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Review the background information provided and provide feedback on the student travel experience.

Attachments:

1. [District Wide International Travel Schedule](#)
2. [EHS Comprehensive Travel Schedule](#)
3. [Appendix III 538, Extended Field Trip and Travel Application Preliminary Approval](#)
4. Insurance through [EF Tours](#) (educational travel experience company partnering with)