

Cedar Hill Independent School District
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Date: November 8, 2010

Presented by: Mr. Horace Williams, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: CHHS Debate Team Trip to Harvard

Action Item

BOARD GOAL:

Design and implement a rigorous instructional delivery system that is data-driven and fosters student engagement.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Cedar Hill Debate team has been attending the Harvard Debate Tournament by invitation for approximately 10 years. Harvard is a prestigious national tournament that allows our students a unique opportunity to visit a major Ivy League campus as well as to compete against debaters from across the United States. This academic trip also encourages our students to look beyond standard college options and consider applying to Ivy League universities.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends board approve CHHS Debate Team trip to Harvard.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

Board approval is required.

POLICY AUTHORIZATION:

CH (LEGAL)

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Dr. Homer Carter, Chief Financial Officer
Tammy Mariani, Principal, Cedar Hill High School

FUNDING SOURCE:

Airfare: student responsibility: We will probably fly Air Trans. From current prices, tickets should be approximately \$240.00 per student.

Flight Insurance: This varies with different companies. \$30.00 per person is average. I plan to use my student travel account to buy insurance in compliance with District requirements.

Ground transportation to and from the airport: Taxis to take 8 students to and from the airport cost approximately \$200.00, which is funded through student travel.

Tournament Entries: Entry fees are \$120.00 per LD Debate entry and \$75.00 per Congress entry. These will be paid from my operating budget.

Hotel: Harvard's special price at the Marriott Cambridge is \$139.00. for 4 people in a room. Hotel fees come primarily from our activity account and student payment. We will be doing one additional fund raiser to add to our activity account.

ENCLOSURES:

See attachments.

When finished printing your flight search results, please [close this window](#).

[Print your search results](#).



Airfares displayed include departure tax but do not include segment taxes, Airport Passenger Facility Charges, or the September 11th security fee ([more details](#)).

- The lowest available fare for each flight is displayed below.
- Fares displayed are for one-way travel for 1 passenger.

Dallas/Fort Worth, TX to Boston, MA: Thu, February 17, 2011 (8 results)

Flight(s)	Departs	Arrives	Stops/ Travel Time	Lowest Coach	Lowest Business Class
100/274	06256:25 AM	16484:48 PM	1 stop (9 h 23 m) 563	<input type="radio"/> \$106*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
1601/961	07007:00 AM	18306:30 PM	2 stops (10 h 30 m) 630	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
104/274	105110:51 AM	16484:48 PM	1 stop (4 h 57 m) 297	<input type="radio"/> \$106*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
104/278	105110:51 AM	19187:18 PM	1 stop (7 h 27 m) 447	<input type="radio"/> \$122*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
112/278	240512:05 PM	19187:18 PM	1 stop (6 h 13 m) 373	<input type="radio"/> \$122*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
106/278	244212:42 PM	19187:18 PM	1 stop (5 h 36 m) 336	<input type="radio"/> \$122*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
728/993	15543:54 PM	220910:09 PM	1 stop (5 h 15 m) 315	<input type="radio"/> \$122*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*
110/276	17165:16 PM	231711:17 PM	1 stop (5 h 1 m) 301	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*

Boston, MA to Dallas/Fort Worth, TX: Tue, February 22, 2011 (10 results)

Flight(s)	Departs	Arrives	Stops/ Travel Time	Lowest Coach	Lowest Business Class
281/101	06006:00 AM	240112:01 PM	1 stop (7 h 1 m) 421	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$635*  
281/105	06006:00 AM	15143:14 PM	1 stop (10 h 14 m) 614	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$635*  
996/727	06206:20 AM	112511:25 AM	1 stop (6 h 5 m) 365	<input type="radio"/> \$106*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*  
273/105	08398:39 AM	15143:14 PM	1 stop (7 h 35 m) 455	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*  
273/113	08398:39 AM	16364:36 PM	1 stop (8 h 57 m) 537	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*  
273/115	08398:39 AM	17555:55 PM	1 stop (10 h 16 m) 616	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*  
1016/1605	112911:29 AM	20378:37 PM	1 stop (10 h 8 m) 608	<input type="radio"/> \$179*	<input type="radio"/> \$635*  
271/115	115211:52 AM	17555:55 PM	1 stop (7 h 3 m) 423	<input type="radio"/> \$147*	<input type="radio"/> \$635*  
994/729	17305:30 PM	221010:10 PM	1 stop (5 h 40 m) 340	<input type="radio"/> \$106*	<input type="radio"/> \$507*  
277/109	18406:40 PM	233711:37 PM	1 stop (5 h 57 m) 357	<input type="radio"/> \$122*	<input type="radio"/> \$635*  

*All AirTran Airways coach tickets are non-refundable and a \$75 fee per person applies to any change made after purchase, plus any applicable increase in airfare. Business class tickets (A and J fare classes only; not including promotional fares) are fully refundable and no fee applies to changes. Additional [baggage fees](#) may apply. Please note that the lowest fares may require an advance purchase, such as 3, 7, or 14 days. Fares shown do not include Airport Passenger Facility Charges of up to \$18. The September 11th security fee of up to \$10 is not included. Fares do not include segment taxes up to \$3.70 per segment. A segment is defined as a takeoff and a landing. Fares to/from Puerto Rico do not include additional government taxes of up to \$32.20. Fares to/from Mexico and the Caribbean do not include additional government taxes of up to \$100. Cancellations must be made at least one hour prior to departure or customer forfeits reservation and any monies paid against the reservation. This reservation is non-transferable - no name changes allowed.

Note: The Harvard tournament schedule for 2011 is not yet available, but the tournament is always held over President's day weekend and the Harvard tour is always a feature of the tournament.

Harvard Trip Itinerary

Feb. 17: Thursday	Leave DFW at 10:51, Air Trans flight 104/274
Feb. 17: Thursday	Arrive in Boston and check into hotel. Afternoon: Downtown and Boston Commons
Feb. 18: Friday	A.M.: History Tour P.M. : Harvard Tour Evening: Tournament registration and Performance
Feb. 19-20 Sat.-/Sun	Tournament Preliminary Rounds all day
Feb. 21 Elimination Rounds	Tournament Elimination Rounds and awards
Feb. 22	Leave Boston at 11:00 a.m. Air Trans flight 271/115

Harvard Trip Funding

- See attached Air Trans listing. Currently, the least expensive round trip tickets to Boston are \$106.00 one way. Two-way tickets with taxes, etc. should be approximately \$240.00 per student. Students pay their own airfare.
- Flight insurance varies with different companies. \$30.00 per person is average, and I will plan to use my student travel budget for insurance.
- Hotel costs are funded by students and my activity budget. We will plan to add to that with one additional fund raiser this year. Sponsor hotel room is taken from travel budget.
- We will plan to stay at the Marriott Cambridge because that is the official "tournament hotel." Student Congress rounds will be held at the Marriott on Saturday, and I will have at least one Congress competitor. This year's room price for 4 people at the Marriott is \$139.00. The Marriott is also very convenient to a subway station and is only 2 stops away from the Harvard campus. We primarily use public transportation in Boston which students pay for.