



Board Meeting Date: January 12, 2026

Title: Bordeaux, France 2027 International Travel Request - Normandale Elementary School - Lynnea West

Type: Action

Presenters: Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning; Chris Holden, Normandale Elementary Principal; and Lynnea West, Normandale and Cornelia Media Specialist

Background: In accordance with Policy 538, the following international student travel experience for up to 35 Normandale Elementary students for two weeks in June 2027 has received support from the school's administration. Participating students will miss zero school days for this travel experience.

This experience is coordinated by Xperitas, a leader in delivering authentic language and cultural immersion programs for Spanish, French and German languages. In addition to experiencing the sites and speaking the target language, our celebrated Family Stay Experience® delivers a deeper, more meaningful exchange than other language immersion programs for students.

Summary of the Travel Experience: [2026 Travel Experience Information](#)

Overview of Standards that will be taught on the Travel Experience:

Educational Goal:

To develop students' intercultural understanding, language skills, and global citizenship by immersing them in authentic French family and community life.

Intercultural Understanding:

Students will gain firsthand experience with French customs, traditions, and daily routines, building appreciation for perspectives different from their own.

Language Development:

Students will strengthen their ability to listen, speak, and read in French through natural, everyday interactions with native speakers.

Global Citizenship:

Students will begin to see themselves as part of a global community, recognizing both similarities and differences among cultures.

Social and Emotional Growth:

Students will develop adaptability, independence, and empathy by engaging respectfully in a new environment and forming connections within their host families.

Reflection and Connection:

Students will reflect on their experiences to connect what they've learned in school to real-world contexts and to share their insights with peers upon returning home.

Cost: \$4,500

Transportation: Air

Accommodations: Host Family Stay

Supervision:

Lead Teacher: Lynnea West

Additional Chaperones: 1-2 additional Normandale staff

Local Support: host families

Recommendation: Review the international travel request.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Review the international travel request for approval.

Attachments:

1. [Appendix III Board Policy 538](#) , [Extended Field Trip and Travel Application Preliminary Approval](#)
2. [Voyage en France District Release of Liability Letter](#)