



## Proposal for OVERNIGHT or EXTENDED Student Trips

Group- GLHS Spanish Club

Proposer Position Deb Kuch Destination Costa Rica City San Jose, La Fortuna,

Monteverde, Jaco State \_\_\_\_\_ Proposed Departure Date June 16th, 2026 Return Date June 26th, 2026 Date

by which response is needed ASAP Proposal Date August 26th, 2025

### A. Purpose of Trip

1. What is the major place to be visited or event to be attended? (See attached itinerary for full trip activities) Students, teachers and chaperones will be visiting San Jose, Manuel Antonio National park, La Fortuna, Sarapiquí, the Arenal Volcano, Monteverde, Guanacaste and Rincon de la Vieja National Park and other small villages in Costa Rica.
2. How is this trip related to the educational program of the District? The District will have the great insight gained from students what will impact this community in so many positive ways and will better be prepared to read, write and speak with purpose because of this experience. Students will have gained valuable experience in communicating in the target language during the whole of the excursion. They will have the opportunity to share out with students of the same age group from Costa Rica. They will also be able to learn about the diverse animal and plant life that thrives in Costa Rica. In Costa Rica the guides teach the students about being a world citizen who is aware of his/her/their impact on the environment.
3. In what ways will the students benefit? Students will develop a greater confidence with their language skills and learn about the culture, geography and diverse animal life that exists in Costa Rica. They will develop a connection with the students that they meet and some of my prior year students still keep in contact with these students and have developed a great love for this country and have gone back to do internships in various parts of this beautiful country.

### B. Students and Staff

1. How many students will be going? At present there are 6 students signed up to go on this trip but there are a few still interested in participating.
2. What staff member will be in charge? Deb Kuch of the World Language Department of

GLHS will be supervising and working to make this trip an excellent educational experience for the students involved.

3. What previous experience has the staff member had in conducting overnight/extended field trips? Deb Kuch has led 14 trips abroad for the Gull Lake High School Spanish Club and 4 of these trips have been to Costa Rica.

4. What other staff members will be going? Colleen Richardson of the GLHS World Language Department will also be going and chaperoning the group.

5. How many chaperones in addition to staff members, will be going? There will be three additional chaperones that will be coming along on this excursion.

6. Chaperone names and affiliations with the students? James Kuch, spouse to Deb Kuch, will be chaperoning. Ben Arking will be chaperoning. He was an assistant to the MS Band director, Ms Cha, for 2 years. Also, Raine Kuch will be an additional chaperone on this trip. She has been on previous trips with the Spanish Club and she is also scheduled to teach a dual enrollment class in the spring at GLHS.

7. How many school days will be missed? This trip takes place in the summer of 2026 thus NO school days will be missed for the participants of this trip.

8. How will teachers be notified in advance that students will be out of school? NA

### C. Itinerary

1. Where will the group be housed and fed? (list phone numbers for housing) The group will be housed in various hotels in the cities we will be staying in Costa Rica. All costs for hotels and food are included in the tour price. All transportation and tours are likewise covered in the tour price. The names of these hotels will be given to the group members in April/May before the trip.

2. What will be the mode of transportation? What liability insurance does the carrier have? Transportation during the trip will be by plane, bus and boat. ( The liability insurance for EF tours is attached to this document. )

3. What arrangements have been made for dealing with emergency situations? EF tours has emergency centers in all main cities in Costa Rica and a protocol for such events. Mrs. Kuch is also ready to stay behind if necessary with anyone who is taken ill and cannot continue the tour.

4. If tour guides are involved, what liability insurance do they carry? This is the same insurance as EF tours which is attached to this document in the school board packet piece.

#### D. Finances


1. What is the estimated total cost AND cost per student? The all inclusive price for students is-\$4,089.00 and the all inclusive for adults is \$4,999.00.
2. What is the source of funds? Parents and students contribute and there is fundraising opportunities for the students to help fund their trip as well as scholarships offered by EF tours.
3. How will the funds be collected and safeguarded? Each participant will be in charge of their own payments to EF tours.
4. How will any shortfall be made up or excess funds used? There will be no excess. Everyone fundraises for their own trip.
5. What provision has been made for students who are financially unable to pay any necessary costs? Students may fundraise or apply for scholarships to cover any costs. They may fundraise as much or as little as the prefer. I have had some students raise over \$800.00 for their trip just by fundraising.

#### E. Communications

1. How will you communicate to parents prior to, during and after the trip? We have already been communicating through email and messages. During the trip and in the past 2 trips we will be communicating on a group WhatsApp. It makes things so much easier and convenient for everyone. In the event of a flight change we have successfully communicated with parents using this method. It is very economical and students feel very comfortable with this. We also have various group meetings before the trip to go over important information.

 9/3/25  
Signature of the Requestor Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Trip approved \_\_\_\_\_ Trip not approved

  
Principal Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Education Date