

SUBJECT: Consideration and possible approval for Pasadena Memorial High School students to travel to Bloomington, Indiana on June 20-27, 2026, to attend the International Thespian Competition and Festival, for approximately \$35,000.

BACKGROUND: We seek permission for thirteen (13) PMHS students and two (2) chaperones to travel to Bloomington, Indiana, to compete at the national level for theatre. These students competed at the Texas Thespian Competition in the category of duet acting and group acting and earned a superior rating qualifying them to compete at the International Thespian Competition and Festival on June 20-27, 2026.

This is an opportunity for our students to compete with others from across the nation and represent PISD. Not only will students participate in the competition, they will also have access to workshops by professionals in the theatre and film world as well as an opportunity to meet with colleges across the nation and watch productions from schools selected as the top in the nation. Based on last year's attendees, over \$100,000 in scholarships were offered to our PISD students. Student attendees and two (2) theater directors will travel via airplane and rental car.

All chaperones are trained in school district policy regarding responsibilities and duties prior to the trip. All rules of conduct established by the school district will be strictly enforced. A contingency plan for travel and health advisories will be followed if needed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The district's financial impact is approximately \$35,000 utilizing district funds. The cost of registration for all travelers (13 students and 2 chaperones) will be a total of \$20,000. This amount includes the competition fee, festival registration of workshops and performances, and room and board. The estimated flight cost from Houston Hobby to Indianapolis is \$800. Vehicle rental for the week is estimated at \$1,000 for two SUVs to accommodate all travelers and luggage. All student travel guidelines and expectations will be followed according to Pasadena Independent School District policy.

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend approval for Pasadena Memorial High School students to travel to Bloomington, Indiana on June 20-27, 2026, to attend the International Thespian Competition and Festival, for approximately \$35,000.

CABINET MEMBER(s): Stacey Barber
Tamika Alford- Stephens

CONTACT PERSON(s): Natalie Dommer
Mike Adams
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BOARD MEETING DATE: February 24, 2026