



Board Meeting Date: 1.13.2023

Title: EHS Social Studies Travel-Based Learning To England and France Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

Type: Action

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

Background: In accordance with Policy 538, the following international student travel experience for up to 40 Edina High School students for eleven 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, coordinated by EF Tours, utilizes Social Studies and Language Arts standards, in addition to Edina Public Schools educational competencies. Among other experiences, while in France, students will participate in ceremonies honoring the 80th anniversary of the World War II Allied Invasion of Normandy, known as D-Day. Students will also tour historical grounds and cities in London, England, in the Normandy region where D-Day occurred, and Paris, France. This experience will be a for-credit high school class; students will be required to keep a journal of their experiences. This will be supported with daily writing prompts as well as teacher-led discussions about their reflections and experiences. Students will also be required to attend required classes before travel and complete course work for the class.

There is an update to this travel experience. As of 1.25.23 we were informed by EF Tours that the England-France 80th Anniversary tour is sold out. In order to maintain alignment with the standards the recommendation is to approve the travel experience with the updates. The changes to the previously discussed report are:

1. The tour is a Germany and France version, instead of England and France. This tour is structured similarly to the England and France version, only beginning in Berlin.
2. The cost for the Germany and France version is approximately \$4,749. The cost difference from the England and France version is approximately \$290 more.
3. The dates of travel would vary slightly but still be in the summer of June 2024.

The information included in the remainder of the report is aligned with the recommendation for the Germany and France version of the travel experience.

Cost: The anticipated inclusive cost of this experience is \$4,749 per student. This price is inclusive of all transportation, accommodations, meals, transfers, and insurance. Students will be responsible for any other out of pocket costs or incidentals. Need-based scholarships and fundraising opportunities are available. EF and Edina Public Schools have established a program designed to empower sustainable and impactful travel-based learning programs for the school community that increases equity and access to the global classroom and opportunities like this one. EPS and EF have created a scholarship program aligned with EPS' commitment to equity.

Transportation: All students and chaperones will travel as a group from Minneapolis to Berlin, Germany to begin the tour, and return via a major U.S. international airline or partner.

Accommodations: Students and chaperones will be housed in 3 to 4 star rated hotels.

Supervision: Staff members traveling with the group are lead teacher Christopher Griggs, EHS Social Studies teacher, and up to 5 additional licensed staff, one of which will be a licensed school administrator.

Recommendation: Approve the student travel experience.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Review the background information provided and approve the student travel experience.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [District Wide International Travel Schedule](#)
2. [EHS Comprehensive Travel Schedule](#)
3. [Appendix Board Policy 538: Extended Field Trip and Travel Application Preliminary Approval](#)
4. [Anniversary of D-Day](#)
5. [Insurance Information](#)
6. [EHS Extended Travel 2022 and beyond](#)