



Board Meeting Date: February 13, 2023

TITLE: EHS STEM to Germany and Switzerland

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 10 days in June 2024 has received support from the school's administration and been discussed at the Teaching and Learning Board Committee Meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2022. Participating students will not miss any school days for this summer travel experience.

This expedition is coordinated by EF Educational Tours, an education-based tour company that provides immersive, life-changing educational travel for students. During this sustainable living-focused tour, students will visit Berlin and tour an urban sustainable development project, explore a museum focused on the future of the environment and technology, and visit a working urban farm. Students will then travel to the green city of Freiburg where they will explore the city through the eyes of an environmental sustainability expert. Then students will tour Hofgut Sternen's sustainable facility and travel to Lucerne. Students will hike with an environmental scientist through the Entlebuch Biosphere and tour the Biosphere with an expert local guide. Finally, students will have the chance to take an expert-led tour through an underground bunker system. Throughout the tour, students will be immersed in European cultures as they have opportunities to explore the various cities on the tour in addition to the sustainability activities mentioned above.

In addition to providing growth opportunities across the EPS Educational Competencies, this student travel experience supports learning across numerous Minnesota science, math, social studies, and technology standards.

COST: The anticipated inclusive cost of this experience is approximately \$4,739 per student. This price is inclusive of all transportation, accommodations, meals, transfers, on-site medical staffing, and medical and repatriation insurance. Students will be responsible for all costs. There

will be need-based scholarships and other scholarships offered. There will also be extensive fundraising opportunities.

TRANSPORTATION: All students and chaperones will travel as a group from Minneapolis to Berlin, Germany, and return from Lucerne, Switzerland back home via a major U.S. international airline. During the tour, all students and chaperones will travel via train from Berlin to Freiburg, Germany and travel via coach bus from Freiburg to Lucerne, Switzerland.

ACCOMODATIONS: Students and chaperones will be housed in hotel rooms of 3-4 students in the various cities.

SUPERVISION: Staff members traveling with the group are Meghan Brautigam, EHS math teacher, and up to five (5) additional licensed staff, one of which will be a licensed school administrator.

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss the student travel experience. It will be brought back to the board for action on 2.13.23.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR THE BOARD: Review the background information provided and provide feedback on the student travel experience.

ATTACHMENT:

1. [District Wide International Travel Schedule](#)
2. [EHS Comprehensive Travel Schedule](#)
3. [Appendix III Board Policy 538 , Extended Field Trip and Travel Application Preliminary Approval](#)
4. [Itinerary](#)
5. [Insurance Information](#)
6. [EHS Extended Travel 2022 and beyond](#)