

Valtena G. Brown, Chief Operating Officer  
 School Operations

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR STUDENTS TO TRAVEL OUT-OF-COUNTRY**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: EDUCATION**

A request has been received for students to travel out-of-country. All arrangements are in accordance with Board Policy 2340 - Field and Other District-Sponsored Trips and with School Board Policy 8640 – Transportation for Field and Other District-Sponsored Trips.

School	Destination	Date	Approximate # of Students/ Chaperones	Cost	Airline	Educational Purpose
TERRA Environmental Research Institute	San José, Monteverde, the Arenal Region, Sarapiquí, Guacimo, Costa Rica	3/21/14 to 3/28/14  No School Days	36 / 6	\$2,265	Approved major airline carrier	Students will be exposed to varying cultural, ecological and social environments enabling them to become global learners.
Jorge Mas Canosa Middle School	London, England; and Dublin, Ireland	3/18/14 to 3/26/14  Two School Days	40 / 5	\$3,350	British Airways or another major carrier	Students will return home with a richer understanding of the European culture and its global influence.
Hialeah Gardens Senior High School	Rome, Italy	3/20/14 to 3/29/14  One School Day	14 / 2	\$3,045	American Airlines or another major carrier	As students visit the city's monuments and vistas, they will learn how these historic sites reflect the importance of Rome in the establishment of the culture and customs of the United States.

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School	Destination	Date	Approximate # of Students/ Chaperones	Cost	Airline	Educational Purpose
Felix Varela Senior High School	Paris, French Riviera, France; and Pisa, Florence, Assisi, Rome, Italy	6/10/14 to 6/19/14  No School Days	20 / 3	\$3,700	American Airlines or another major carrier	The opportunity for students to travel overseas is an important component of the curriculum of the iPrep Academy and the Global Studies Magnet. As students visit the historic sites, museums and cities, they will connect the landmarks of each country to what they studied.
MAST Academy	Berlin, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Krakow, Poland; and Budapest, Hungary	3/19/14 to 3/30/14  Two School Days	32 / 5	\$2,715	American Airlines or another major carrier	The students will have an opportunity to study Eastern European Art History and Architecture in support of their social studies and foreign language curriculum.
Palmetto Middle School	Paris, Loire Valley and Cognac, France	3/21/14 to 3/29/14  No School Days	30 / 6	\$3,275	American Airlines or another major carrier	Students will have the opportunity to interact in French in a number of true-life situations as well as participate in age-appropriate cultural activities.
New World School of the Arts	Paris, France	3/22/14 to 3/30/14  No School Days	22 / 3	\$2,880	American Airlines or another major carrier	As students visit the city's monuments and vistas, they will learn how these historic sites reflect the importance of France in the establishment of the culture and customs of the United States.

School	Destination	Date	Approximate # of Students/ Chaperones	Cost	Airline	Educational Purpose
Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High School	Dublin, Ireland and London, England	3/20/14 to 3/28/14  One School Day	36 / 4	\$2,870	American Airlines or another major carrier	Students will learn how the historic sites they will be visiting reflect the importance of Dublin and London in the establishment of the culture and customs of the United States
Miami Beach Senior High School	Berlin, Dresden, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Budapest, Hungary; and Vienna, Austria	3/17/14 to 3/30/14  Three School Days	60 / 6	\$2,767	American Airlines or another major carrier	Students will be exposed to the culture, history, and languages and learn how the importance of those countries have impacted the establishments of the Western civilization.

Revised

Tour operators offer chaperones to travel at no cost for a designated number of participants.

The students and teachers participating in the trip will be registered with the U.S. Department of State by utilizing their on-line Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) which is a free service provided by the United States Government. By registering trip participants with STEP, the Department of State can better assist them in an emergency.

The students will provide a written report to their respective principal summarizing the highlights, experiences and educational value of the trip. The reports will also be posted on the schools' website for other students to review.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the out-of-country field trips to:

1. Costa Rica for the students at TERRA Environmental Research Institute;
2. England and Ireland for the students at Jorge Mas Canosa Middle School;
3. Italy for the students at Hialeah Gardens Senior High School;
4. France and Italy for the students at Felix Varela Senior High School;
5. Germany, Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary for the students at MAST Academy;
6. France for the students at Palmetto Middle School;
7. France for the students at New World School of the Arts;
8. England and Ireland for the students at Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High School;
9. Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary and Austria for the students at Miami Beach Senior High School.