



# Cambridge-Isanti Schools Out of State Student Travel Approval

*The following information is required for all out of state student travel. Out of state travel must be board approved at least three months in advance of the proposed travel date and before any formal meetings or fundraising take place. This form is due to the Teaching & Learning Department two weeks prior to the school board meeting.*

## Appendix A

### Galapagos Trip Proposal: June 7- 17, 2027

| Topics   | Overview and Timeline   |
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| <b>Student interest</b>                                      | I am currently putting information together to give to students about the trip via an in person as well as virtual meeting. I will start promoting the trip in September pending school board approval. The trip is in June of 2027, this will give students the opportunity to enroll in advance so that payments are more manageable. |
| <b>Dates of travel</b>                                       | The tentative dates of travel are June 7-17, depending on flight and tour availability.   |
| <b>Galapagos Trip Information</b>                            | Explorica Tours is the company I will use to organize this trip. They take care of all of the logistics. Everything from international airfare, in-country travel, lodging, guides, tours, food, travel insurance, etc. runs through them.  |
| <b>Cost to the students:</b>                                 | The full cost of the trip including the highest level of travel insurance is \$5573.00<br>The students make all of their payments through Explorica. They have 3 different options for payments (monthly, 3-4 larger payments, or pay in full)  |
| <b>Fundraising - Not required</b>                            | Students are not required to participate in fundraising, most choose to get a part time job. The plan is to have a couple optional opportunities.   |
| <b>Plan for supervision</b>                                  | Tricia Hennen will be the lead chaperone on the trip and there will also be another adult chaperone. If the number of students reaches 15, then a 3rd chaperone will be added.  |
| <b>Plan for academic follow up</b>                           | Students will not miss any school days as the trip will be scheduled during summer vacation.  |
| <b>Plan for participants to be in academic good standing</b> | Students must be on-track for graduation to participate in this trip. The requirements mirror athletic and activity eligibility as outlined in the CIHS Student Handbook. Students may not have significant discipline incidents.   |

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| <p><b>Provisions for the trip prior to departure</b></p> | <p>The permission slip is currently being updated and will be reviewed to ensure that it meets current board policy and insurance requirements. The permission slip includes notice that students are required to adhere to all student discipline guidelines while on the trip. These include all Cambridge Isanti School Board Policies and specific guidelines in the CIHS Student Handbook.</p>  |
| <p><b>Study time for students</b></p>                    | <p>Although students will not miss any school for this trip, they will be involved in many learning opportunities while in Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands. This learning will include, but is not limited to: the history and culture of the capital city, Quito; the history, biodiversity, and conservation efforts of the Galápagos Islands; the unique endemic and native species found nowhere else in the world; and the process of natural selection and selective pressures found on each of the islands. Additionally, students will have the experience of traveling, living, and communicating in a different country.</p>   |
| <p><b>Strategic Plan Alignment</b></p>                   | <p>Goal 1: Student Academic Growth and Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1.13 Science curriculum: A Galápagos trip is a living laboratory for evolution, ecology, biodiversity, and conservation. It directly supports science standards and empowers students to be engaged, hands-on learners.</li> <li>● 1.14 Continuous improvement / curriculum standards: Fieldwork in the Galápagos connects to national and state science standards..</li> <li>● 1.5 Work Based Learning: Students are introduced to career pathways in marine biology, conservation science, environmental policy, or wildlife photography through real-world professional contexts.</li> <li>● 1.3 / 1.4 Career Pathways &amp; CCR: The trip exposes students to STEM careers they may not encounter locally, broadening their sense of what's possible post-graduation.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 2: Positive Relationships with Families and Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2.2 Inclusive environments: Experiencing a drastically different ecosystem and culture expands students' worldview and builds respect for diverse environments and perspectives, which is core to the Bluejacket character traits.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3: Mental Health and Well-Being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 3.4 Social connection activities: A shared expedition is one of the most powerful ways to build lasting social bonds among students. The</li> </ul> |

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|                              | <p>experience of navigating challenges together, away from school routines, fosters deep peer relationships.</p> <p>Goal 4: Community Partnerships and District Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 4.3 Non-traditional learning: A field-based international science expedition is exactly the kind of non-traditional learning opportunity the district is trying to expand to attract and retain families.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Parent Letter</b>         | Attached. This letter will be sent to parents upon board approval of the trip.   |
| <b>District Board Policy</b> | Appendix E: Policy 610   |

**Travel Protection Plus Insurance is Included with the price of the trip.**

Along with providing you the same benefits as our standard Travel Protection Plan, the Explorica Travel Protection Plan Plus also includes our exclusive Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit.

With our Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit, if you cancel your trip for any reason not otherwise covered by this policy, we will reimburse you for 75% of the non-refundable cancellation fees which apply to your trip, provided:

- 1) Payment for this plan is received by Explorica within 14 days of your initial deposit/payment for your trip; and
- 2) You cancel your trip thirty (30) days or more before your scheduled trip departure date.