



**D.C. EVEREST
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

6500 Alderson Street
Weston, WI 54476

To: Casey Nye, Superintendent
From: Dallas Rennie *DR*
Date: July 7, 2026
Subject: Spain Trip for Board Approval

We are seeking approval for a 10-day overseas trip to Japan in March 2028 going through WorldStrides (formerly Explorica). A per student cost is \$5,675. The only district expense is the teacher stipend of \$750 per teacher depending on the number of students going. Program Leader Sarah Bailey and Co-Leader Carrie Zoromski would be the chaperons with other teachers or parents if needed. To ensure student safety and supervision, a ratio of 1 teacher to 5 students with a minimum enrollment of 10 students and maximum of 35. Students will raise money through fundraisers to pay for their expenses of the trip.

I am asking that you bring this request to the attention of the School Board for approval of the trip. Thank you for your time and assistance with this request.

Attached: 10-Day Educational Trip to Japan Proposal from Sarah Bailey and Carrie Zoromski

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
D.C. EVEREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

PROGRAM
2340(A)F/page 1 of 1

FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Date of Trip: March 2028 Destination of Trip: Japan
Destination Address: Tokyo, Hakone, Takayama, Kyote and Nara, Hiroshima and Mlyaj
ID the Curriculum-based Purpose of the Trip: Extend learning through authentic cultural immersion& real-world application supporting curriculum goals by strengthening, understanding,awareness of East Asian history/cultural developm
Teacher(s) responsible for trip: Sarah Bailey & Carrie Zoromski

Departure Time: TBD Return Time: TBD Approximate # of Students: 10-35

Cost for Trip: \$750/teacher Student Fee \$5,675

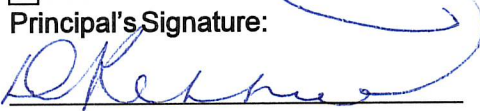
Lunch at ☐ school or ☒ away If away, are sack lunches needed? ☒ No ☐ Yes If yes, how many:

Students participating in trip:

☐ House

☐ Class

☐ List of students attached

Principal's Signature: 

All Teachers/Chaperones Assigned & Their Cell Number:

Sarah Bailey, 715-298-8118

Carrie Zoromski, 715-571-8271

Date: 07-08-26

After Principal Signs Distribute Copy To: Main Office Health Aid Attendance School Nutrition

Details to be completed at least TWO-WEEKS before the trip

- ~ Approval of administrator;
- ~ Arrangements for payment/cost of trip;
- ~ Verify field trip permission forms are on file;
- ~ Complete Online Bus Request;
- ~ Give alphabetical list of student names and ID numbers attached to this form;
- ~ Give list of students and staff members by bus for the health aide to pack health supplies needed for the trip;
- ~ Schedule an appointment with Health Aide to review details about the trip;
- ~ Notice of trip and itinerary sent home;
- ~ Notify special education department / case manager of students attending the trip.

Details to complete DAY OF TRIP

- ~ Pick up first aid kit and medication from health aide -remember the health bags must be on the bus for which they are labeled for the student(s) who may need assistance during the bus ride.
- ~ Take attendance before leaving, leave copy in the office and keep original for use during the trip.

Thank you for your assistance. PLEASE contact the health aide with changes in the field trip schedule, attendance, bus assignments or meal plans.

10-Day Educational Trip to Japan Proposal

Proposed Travel Dates: March 2028

(Final dates dependent on the 2028 Spring Break calendar)

Proposed By:

Sarah Bailey

Chinese Language Teacher / World Language Department

D.C. Everest Area School District

Proposal Overview

I am requesting approval to offer a 10-day educational trip to Japan for students currently enrolled in or who have previously studied Chinese, with additional participation extended to other World Language students if space allows.

This program is designed to extend classroom learning through authentic cultural immersion and real-world application. It supports World Language curriculum goals by strengthening students' intercultural competence, global awareness, and understanding of East Asian history and cultural development.

As a Chinese language teacher, I aim to help students understand the historical and cultural connections shared across East Asia, including the influence of the Chinese writing system, religion, philosophy, architecture, and traditions on Japanese society. This experience will provide meaningful, firsthand learning that reinforces classroom instruction and develops students' global competency through direct engagement with another culture.

Japan Trip Overview:

This 10-day educational tour of Japan provides students with an immersive cultural and historical learning experience through structured visits to major cities and significant sites. Beginning in Tokyo and concluding in Osaka, students will explore Japanese history, traditions, technological development, and daily life while developing intercultural competence and global awareness aligned with World Language goals. The experience also encourages students to reflect on their own cultural perspectives while fostering respect for cultural diversity and international understanding.

As part of the World Language program, this experience supports interdisciplinary connections to Chinese language and East Asian studies. Students will examine historical and cultural interrelationships within East Asia, including the influence of the Chinese writing system, religion, philosophical traditions, and architectural styles on Japanese society. These experiential learning opportunities strengthen students' understanding of regional history and cultural exchange while reinforcing classroom instruction in Chinese language and culture.

Planned Educational Experiences

The itinerary includes guided educational experiences in the following locations: Tokyo, Hakone, Takayama, Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima, Miyajima, and Osaka.

Students will visit historically and culturally significant sites, including Matsumoto Castle, Shirakawago Village, Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion), Fushimi Inari Taisha, Nara Deer Park, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, the Atomic Bomb Dome, and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

Additional cultural experiences, including an immersive stay in a traditional ryokan featuring onsen (hot spring) bathing, a traditional multi-course kaiseki-style meal, structured group activities, and participation in a traditional tea ceremony, will further enhance student engagement and deepen their understanding of Japanese cultural traditions.

Hiroshima Educational Experience

The Hiroshima portion of the trip provides a structured educational experience connecting World War II history and peace education. Visits to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, the Atomic Bomb Dome, and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum will provide students with guided historical context delivered by museum educators and the tour director, supporting student understanding of the events of August 1945, their global consequences, and the development of modern peace movements.

Students will examine the representation of historical events within public memory through memorial spaces, exhibits, and interpretive materials. They will also gain exposure to Hiroshima's role in contemporary discourse on nuclear disarmament and international cooperation.

This experience will support student reflection on the human impact of conflict, as well as the importance of international cooperation and peacebuilding in the modern world.

Real-World Global Learning

Throughout the trip, students will utilize Japan's public transportation system, including the Shinkansen (bullet train). These experiences will provide exposure to efficient international infrastructure, environmental sustainability practices, and the practical experience of navigating transportation systems in a global context.

Participation in this educational travel experience will support the development of student independence, confidence, and adaptability, along with a broader understanding of global interconnectedness in an increasingly interdependent world.

Estimated Tour Package Cost Per Student

Total Cost: \$5,675

OR

16 monthly payments of \$352 after an initial \$50 deposit (if started in September, 2026)

What's Included in the Package Cost:

- Round-trip international airfare departing from Minneapolis (MSP) to Tokyo (HND) and returning from Osaka (KIX) to Minneapolis in economy class, including taxes and fuel surcharges.
- 8 nights of 3–4 star hotel accommodations based on double occupancy.
- Two meals per day (breakfast and dinner).
- Admission to all sightseeing and cultural activities listed in the itinerary.
- Land transportation throughout the tour.
- Full-time services of a Tour Director—an experienced educational travel professional trained in educational student travel programming.
- Gratuities for guides and drivers^[SEP].
- Basic medical, dental, and emergency evacuation travel insurance is provided through Trip Mate, a third-party travel protection provider.

Two optional protection plans are available to provide additional coverage and peace of mind for students and their families:

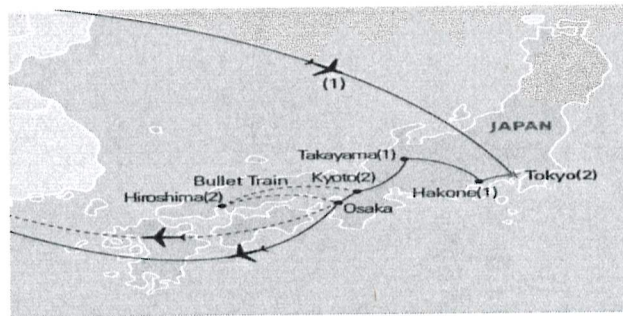
- **Travel Protection Plan:** The standard plan covers events such as traveler injury or illness, theft of passports and luggage, and flight cancellations due to weather and other disruptions.
- **Travel Protection Plan Plus:** Includes all benefits of the standard plan, plus an exclusive Cancel For Any Reason waiver.

Tour Cost does not Include:

- Airline-imposed baggage fees.
- Passport fees.
- Personal expenses, including lunches.

Detailed Itinerary:

Wausau → Tokyo → Hakone → Takayama → Kyoto → Hiroshima → Osaka → Wausau



Day 1: Overnight flight to Japan (Tokyo)

Day 2: Konnichiwa, Tokyo! Check into the hotel and meet the Tour Director.

Day 3: Tokyo guided sightseeing tour:

Senso-ji Temple, Meiji Shrine, Harajuku District, Akihabara Electric Town, Shibuya Crossing, karaoke experience, and dinner.

Day 4: Tokyo → Hakone Region

Travel to Hakone by bus. Excursions include Owakudani Boiling Valley, Hakone Ropeway, Lake Ashi cruise with views of Mt. Fuji, and Hakone Shrine. Overnight stay in a traditional ryokan featuring Japanese cuisine and an onsen (hot spring) experience.

Day 5: Hakone Region → Takayama

Travel to Matsumoto by bus. Visit Matsumoto Castle.

Day 6: Takayama → Kyoto

Takayama guided sightseeing tour: Morning Market and Old Town. Visit Shirakawago Village. Travel to Kyoto.

Day 7: Kyoto and Nara

Nara Deer Park, Todai-ji Temple, Kasuga Grand Shrine. Kyoto sightseeing includes Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion) and Fushimi Inari Taisha.

Day 8: Hiroshima and Miyajima

Travel to Hiroshima via bullet train. Hiroshima sightseeing includes the Atomic Bomb Dome, Peace Memorial Park, Peace Memorial Museum, and Shukkei-en Garden.

Day 9: Hiroshima

Miyajima Island ferry excursion. Visit Itsukushima Shrine, Senjokaku Pagoda, and shop on Omotesando Street.

Day 10: Return flight from Osaka

Travel to Osaka by train. Flight home.

Eligibility & Participation

- Minimum enrollment: 10 students.
- Maximum enrollment: 35 students.
- Open to students ages 14 and older.

Trip Leadership and Travel Information

Program Leader: Sarah Bailey — sbailey@dce.k12.wi.us

Co-Leader: Carrie Zoromski — czoromski@dce.k12.wi.us

Chaperone Ratio

To help ensure student safety and supervision, the trip will maintain a ratio of **1 chaperone for every 5 students**.

Travel Provider

WorldStrides (formerly Explorica) is an experienced, reputable, and well-established educational travel company specializing in teacher-led tours for middle school, high school, and college students.

Fundraising Activities

To help offset travel costs and increase accessibility for students, Chinese Club and Japan Trip participants will engage in fundraising activities throughout the planning process. Potential fundraising activities include:

- Restaurant fundraiser nights.
- T-shirt and hoodie sales.
- Bake sales and treat sales.
- Community can drives.

Next Steps

If approved, I will hold informational meetings for interested students and families to share trip details, expectations, and enrollment procedures. Registration, payments, and all trip-related information will be managed through the WorldStrides Tour Center platform for this program.

Additional communication will be provided regarding deadlines, fundraising opportunities, and travel logistics. Students and families will receive ongoing updates throughout the planning process to ensure clear, consistent access to all trip-related information.