



**Agenda IV.B.1.  
April 23, 2026**

**To:** Board of Education  
Dr. Latanya Daniels, superintendent

**From:** Dr. Chris Bellmont, assistant superintendent, and Alicia Vonderharr, teacher and Travel Club advisor, and Gloria Webber, teacher and Travel Club chaperone

**Date:** April 23, 2026

**Re:** Preliminary Approval for Travel Club Trip to Japan

**Recommendation:** That the Board of Education approve the preliminary application for an international field trip for the Travel Club trip to Japan in 2028.

**Date:** July 12-20, 2028 (proposed dates)

**Destination:** Tokyo, KamaKura, Fuji-Hakone-Izu region, Odawara, Kansai region, Japan

**Name of sponsoring staff:** Alicia Vonderharr, Gloria Webber, and Landen Parkin

**Name of Tour Company:** EF Tours

**Description and Educational Objective:** This highly requested trip will take students through modern Tokyo and traditional Kyoto along with the country's natural beauty, as seen through the window of the high-speed Shinkansen train. Students will experience everything from ancient shrines to the Harajuku Shopping Center of Tokyo to the famous Bamboo Forest of the Kansai region. Since Travel Club started back up in 2022, students have been asking for a trip to Japan. We are excited to offer this opportunity!

Using EF's guided learning model, students develop an essential question prior to leaving on the trip. Then students investigate that question using EF's Personalized Learning Guide. Students will receive college essay help connected to their final projects. Students learn the history and culture of the Japanese regions and cities they visit along with customs and norms. Students learn through an immersive, hands-on approach.

**Preliminary estimated cost per student:** \$5759

- Pricing includes tour, airfare, ground travel, lodging, student admission fees, tips and liability insurance
- A suggested \$40/per day or \$320 is recommended for each person for personal spending

**Fundraising Opportunities for Students:**

EF Tours offers a \$1000 merit- and needs-based scholarship that students can apply to. Each student will have a fundraising page where 100% of proceeds go to the student's cost of the trip. Travel Club offers many fundraising opportunities such as CUB bagging groceries, Cherrydale Fundraising, restaurant nights, candy bar sales, coffee sales.

**Preliminary number of students and chaperones:** 25 students and 3-4 chaperones

**Administrative Approval:** Principal Sandoval and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Chris Bellmont have both accepted and approved the preliminary application.

**Attachment:** Overview of Itinerary