




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

6500 Alderson Street
Weston, WI 54476

To: Casey Nye, Superintendent
From: Dallas Rennie 
Date: May 15, 2026
Subject: Spain Trip for Board Approval

We are seeking approval for a 12-day overseas trip to Spain in March 2027 going through Interact Travel from Green Bay. A per student cost is \$3200-3500. The only district expense is the teacher stipend of \$750 per teacher depending on the number of students going and their gender. Interact Travel requests a ratio of 1 teacher to 10 students unless males and females go then both Spanish teachers Libby Plamann and Eric Wenninger would go. 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: Proposal for Overseas Educational Travel Memo from Libby Plamann

Proposal for Overseas Educational Travel

“Spring Break 2027 Overseas Cultural and Language Immersion Experience”

Submit to: Board of Education

Submitted by: Libertad Plamann

Department: Spanish - World Language Department

Proposed Travel Dates: Spring Break 2027

Trip Length: 12 Days (including overnight international flight)

I. Purpose of the Trip

Students in the World Language program have consistently expressed interest in participating in an immersive overseas educational experience. In response to this interest, I started searching for a company I have worked with in the past. We used Interact-Travels - a 12-day international tour by a company with reputable educational travel. Students enrolled in upper-level Spanish courses will be able to participate in an immersive international educational experience designed to strengthen language proficiency and cultural understanding. Through guided tours, homestays, and cultural interactions, students will apply classroom knowledge in authentic real-world contexts while exploring historical sites, local traditions, and daily life in a Spanish-speaking country.

Traveling abroad provides students with a once-in-a-lifetime experiential learning opportunity. This program is designed to:

- Encourage students to deepen their language proficiency prior to travel.
- Provide authentic real-world application of classroom learning.
- Foster cultural awareness and global citizenship.
- Broaden students' perspectives beyond Central Wisconsin.
- Promote independence, responsibility, and intercultural communication skills.

The immersive experience will allow students to live within a different culture, engage in guided educational excursions, and participate in structured cultural interactions.

---Learning Goals---

Students will:

- Apply Spanish language skills in real-world communication situations.
- Develop intercultural competence and global awareness.
- Demonstrate increased independence and responsibility while traveling internationally.
- Connect classroom learning to authentic cultural experiences.
- Reflect on global perspectives and cultural differences.

II. Travel Company Partnership

The trip will be coordinated through **Interact Travel**, headquartered in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

About the Company

- Founded in 1983 by a Spanish teacher.
- Serves more than 500 schools, primarily throughout the Midwest and Washington State.
- Experienced in organizing customized educational tours for schools.
- Provides full-service programming including transportation, lodging, and guided excursions.

Safety and Supervision

- A professional courier accompanies the group for the duration of the trip.
- Homestay locations are supervised by local Homestay Directors.
- All participants and families will sign written conduct agreements.
- A strict **No Drinking or Sampling Alcohol for Minors Under 21 Policy** will be enforced.

III. Student Eligibility

Students eligible to participate must:

- Be enrolled in Spanish coursework.
- **Spanish 3 and higher** in good academic standing prior to departure.
- Demonstrate appropriate academic and behavioral conduct.

IV. Supervision and Structure

Students will not be unsupervised at any time. The program is fully structured and includes:

- Continuous supervision by school staff
- A professional travel courier
- Local homestay directors (when applicable)
- Guided excursions and planned daily itineraries
- Structured cultural and educational experiences

V. Trip Duration

- **12 days total**
- Includes overnight international flight
- Scheduled for **Spring Break 2027** (exact dates to be finalized upon enrollment confirmation but it could be during the scheduled school spring break.)

VI. Estimated Cost (interact travel)

According to the company I usually work with:

Mexico: based on a total group size traveling of 10 or more.

\$3150 Maya Sun: https://interact-travel.com/programs/maya_sun_2027.html

OR

Panama: based on a total group size traveling of 7 or more.

\$3195 Tesoros https://interact-travel.com/programs/tesoros_2027.html

OR

Guate: Homestay families do not host from Holy Thursday-Easter Sunday;

Fees are based on a group size of 20 or more travelling.

\$3995 (Travel during Holy Week) Antigua

Sun: https://interact-travel.com/programs/antigua_sun_2027.html

\$ 4095 (Travel during Holy Week) Echoes: [https://interact-](https://interact-travel.com/programs/echoes_2027.html)

[travel.com/programs/echoes_2027.html](https://interact-travel.com/programs/echoes_2027.html)

- Passport (approximately \$100 if needed)
- Transportation to / from the Minneapolis/Chicago airport (to be coordinated as a group)

This will be a **private trip for our school**, though partnering with another district remains an option to reduce costs.

VII. What Is Included

The program fee includes:

- Round-trip international airfare
- Ground transportation abroad
- Lodging (homestay and/or hotel accommodations)
- Most meals
- Exclusive guided educational excursions
- Cultural activities and interactions
- Full-time tour courier

The **passport expense is not included**.

VIII. Payment Timeline *(Tentative for the 2026–2027 school year)*

A structured payment plan will likely follow this model:

- Initial deposit with enrollment (approximately **\$350**)
- Fall payment installment
- Winter payment installment (passport copies submitted)

- Final balance due prior to departure

A detailed payment calendar specific to the **2026–2027 timeline** will be distributed after board approval.

IX. Fundraising Opportunities

Fundraising opportunities will be available.

Given the long planning timeline, students will have substantial opportunity to:

- Participate in school-approved fundraisers
- Offset personal travel costs
- Develop leadership and organizational skills

Parent collaboration and ideas will be welcomed during informational meetings.

X. Informational Meetings

An informational parent meeting will be scheduled prior to **Winter Break of the 2026–2027 school year** to:

- Review itinerary details
- Explain payment plans
- Discuss fundraising options
- Address safety protocols
- Answer family questions

Meeting dates will be scheduled to accommodate the majority of interested families.

XI. Educational Value to the District

This overseas experience directly supports district goals related to:

- Global competence
- Real-world application of learning
- Cultural awareness
- Student engagement
- College and career readiness

Students will return with enhanced language proficiency, cultural empathy, and a broadened worldview that strengthens both our school community and the district's commitment to global education.

XII. Request for Approval

Approval is respectfully requested from the Board of Education to:

- Authorize the planning and promotion of the **Spring Break 2027 overseas educational trip**
- Allow the World Language Department to partner with **Interact Travel**
- Permit fundraising efforts through district-approved channels
- Approve staff supervision of the trip

This opportunity will have a lasting academic and personal impact on participating students, and I hope it will be possible for our students to experience it.

Respectfully submitting,

Libertad Plamann