



TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FROM: STEVE LIDGARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – BUSINESS SERVICES  
SUBJECT: SOLICITING STUDENTS FOR TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC  
DATE: JUNE 7, 2022  
TYPE: ACTION NEEDED

Tanya Davenport, History Teacher at Stanwood High School, is requesting Board approval to solicit Stanwood High School students to participate in an educational trip to Washington DC and New York City through EF Educational Tours in the summer of 2023.

Attached is a letter from Ms. Davenport describing the opportunity and a link from EF Educational Tours outlining the trip.

This is a non-district sponsored educational trip. Ms. Davenport, students, or employees that participate will not be representatives of the school or district.

**Recommendation: We recommend the board approve Tanya Davenport's request to solicit students to participate in the EF Educational Tours Trip to Washington DC in the summer of 2023.**

May 26, 2022

To: Stanwood-Camano School District Board Members

From: Tanya Davenport, Stanwood High School

Dear Board Members,

I am requesting permission to solicit to students for an upcoming trip. I would be leading students on a trip to Washington D.C. and New York City in June 2023. This trip is designed to complement our U.S. history curriculum. We will be visiting sites including the Capitol, the Smithsonian Museum, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, several memorials, Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and more. As a student-centered tour, we will be traveling with the express purpose of seeking greater understanding of United States history and American culture. Not only will students be able to link the trip's highlights to their academic schema but I think we can all agree that travel has a tremendous impact on a student's personal growth as well. It provides an opportunity to meet new people, experience new cultures and traditions, and provides context for understanding of the world they inhabit.

While this is my first long distance trip with students, I am not new to travel. In my personal time, I am an avid traveler both domestically and internationally. Having coached tennis and track, I have experience traveling with students within Washington State. It is my goal that these young travelers gain knowledge, understanding and insight into American history and use these first-hand experiences for personal growth.

I am new to this process and tried to follow the protocols as they were described to me. In such, I will be holding meetings outside of class times to get students and parents excited about the trip.

I. GENERAL OVERVIEW

I have included a link (<https://www.efexploreamerica.com/my-quotes/2541310ph/quote/2901760/1dd0e933d15c42698f>) with information pertaining to our trip. This includes details about the trip as well as a sample itinerary with the trip dates, cost, and registration information.

II. Tour Company

EF Tours (Education First), an American and European based company, offers educational and cultural trips (domestically and internationally) to students eager to learn about people, cultures, and experiences. This company will arrange the trip for our group and will handle such responsibilities as plane tickets, hotels, most meals and side trips throughout our tour (see attached EF materials about this tour company and our specific trip). They have 50 years of experience with organizing student travel and enjoy a great reputation. They are insured, provide a 24-hour tour guide, emergency services and overnight security. They are also accredited for students to earn academic credit for this trip with some additional course work required. Due to their tremendous reputation and trip amenities, other teachers have used this company for overseas trips.

III. Departure Dates

Our projected departure date will be June 24, 2023. Our projected arrival back will be June 28, 2023.

#### IV. Itinerary

For a detailed itinerary of our trip, places and activities, please refer to the link listed above. We plan to depart from Seattle-Tacoma airport and arrive in Washington D.C. We will then travel to New York City via bus. We will return home from New York City.

#### V. Trip Finances and District Responsibility

This trip will be financed by the student travelers and their parents. Students are responsible for their own money for souvenirs, one meal a day and other expenses incurred during the trip. Stanwood High School and the Stanwood-Camano District are not in any way financially responsible for this trip. All students will carry medical insurance either through their own insurance carrier or through the insurance offered through the tour company. All travelers are responsible for their own transportation to and from the airport. Given that the trip will occur over the summer, there is no need for a substitute teacher.

#### VI. Rules and Regulations During the Trip: Student Expectations

I will be the lead chaperone for this student trip to the East Coast. In addition, we will have an EF Group Leader who will accompany us as well as my husband, Nic Caldwell, who also works with high school students as a coach in a nearby district. Jason Femrite has also agreed to chaperone, if needed, to accommodate the 10:1 student to chaperone ratio. These young people will be representing our community and state when they travel, therefore there will be no toleration for the consumption of alcoholic beverages or other illegal substances. Any student found drinking, using illegal substances or engaging in reprehensible behavior will be automatically sent home at their parent's expense. I expect these young people to have fun and fully enjoy this travel experience but to also conform to a high standard of decorum and personal behavior.

I am very excited about this trip and the prospect of developing this into a tradition so the experiences can be shared with many Stanwood students over the years.

Thank you for all the support that you offer to the students of our community.

Tanya Davenport  
History Teacher  
Stanwood High School