**Board Policy #2340 - FIELD AND OTHER CORPORATION-SPONSORED TRIPS**

**OUT OF STATE/OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST**



**CHECKLIST**

**WHO:** Mt. Vernon students who are either heritage speakers or are currently enrolled in a Spanish class

**WHAT:** The intent of this trip is to immerse Mt. Vernon students who are either heritage speakers or are currently enrolled in a Spanish class into the language and culture of Spain. Our target students range in abilities from introductory through proficient levels of Spanish-speaking competencies. We will work with F.L.A.G. to coordinate a trip to Spain for 8 - 10 days over the 2020-2021 Spring Break.

The students will participate in a combination of school days, cultural excursions and home-stay experiences. While in school, students will follow the schedule of a student based on their language skills. Students who are more fluent in Spanish will spend more time immersed in Spanish speaking classes, whereas students who are emergent learners will spend their time split between English and Spanish speaking classes. These students will still be exposed to the language and the culture, and hopefully in a manner that is scaffolded to meet their linguistic proficiencies. (This depends on our international partner’s ability to comply with this request.)

**WHEN:** 8-10 days during Spring Break 2021

**WHERE**: Sevilla or Madrid, Spain

**CHAPERONES:** Jennifer Roland, Cara Adams, Patricia Laughlin, Margarita Dwyer

**TRANSPORTATION:** Bus to Chicago; International flight; train/bus/uber/host family around Spain

**COST:** ~$2,000.00 with flight included

**WHY:** The most efficient way to support our students’ linguistic growth in Spanish is to fully immerse them in the environment of the language. Through persistent immersion in an authentic environment, the students will be required to practice their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills beyond a purely academic setting. Students will be exposed to the opportunity to embrace a culture beyond their own with the intention of becoming more well-rounded global citizens.

This experience will be mutually beneficial. Our Mt. Vernon students will enhance their fluency with the language and increase their understanding of the culture by interacting with the students, teachers and community members. In addition, they will also have the opportunity to share their American culture and heritage with peer students in Spain.

**LASTING IMPRESSIONS:** Throughout their exchange program, our students will be active participants in their homestay, school and cultural experience. Students will be encouraged to make deeper connections and comparisons between the American and Spanish cultures. Upon return to Mt. Vernon our students will showcase their trip through a community presentation highlighting their experiences while on their exchange program in Spain.

**MEDICAL RELEASES/PARENT PERMISSION ON FILE:** Once permission is granted, and students have applied and been accepted, we will work with students and parents to get medical releases and parent permissions on file.

**SAFETY AND SUPERVISION PROVISIONS:** We will take 20 students and 4 teachers maintaining a 1:5 ratio at all times for group settings. Students will also be left to the care and supervision of their host families.