

**RATIFICATION OF ACTION OF THE PRESIDENT APPROVING THE PARTICIPATION OF
SELECTED CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN AN EDUCATIONAL
EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO HAMBURG, GERMANY, SPONSORED BY THE GERMAN-AMERICAN
NATIONAL CONGRESS (DEUTSCH-AMERIKANISHER NATIONAL KONGRESS - DANK)**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

Ratify the action taken by the President approving the participation of twenty-three (23) Chicago public high school students and 3 teachers in an educational exchange program to Hamburg, Germany, during a thirteen day period from April 15, 2001 through April 27, 2001.

The President acting pursuant to Section 2-4 of the Rules of the Board of Education, directed the Secretary to poll the Board members regarding the approval of the participation of the twenty-three students and three teachers in the above referenced exchange program to Hamburg, Germany. The Secretary polled at least 4 Board members on the question. All were in favor of the educational exchange program.

USER: Northside College Prep
5501 N. Kedzie
Chicago, Illinois 60625
Mr. James Lalley

PROGRAM: The German-American National Congress (DANK: Deutsch-Amerikanisher National Kongress) is sponsoring the fourth student exchange between the schools of the city of Chicago and Hamburg, Germany. A group of 25 Chicago students, along with teacher chaperones, visited Hamburg in March, 1998. The host high school in Hamburg is the Christianeum Gymnasium, in the suburb of Othmarschen near the Elbe River. The students from Chicago will attend daily classes at Christianeum Gymnasium and will be engaged in daily educational activities and several field trips during their stay in Germany, including a trip to the city of Berlin.

The students selected to participate in the program have had at least two years of German language study and have demonstrated a strong proficiency in German. Additionally, they must be at least 16 years of age and be in the top of their class academically. There will be seven (7) students from Lane Tech High School, ten students (10) from Lincoln Park High School, five (5) students from Northside College Prep, and one (1) student from Robeson.

EDUCATION VALUE/OUTCOMES: Past visits to Hamburg have resulted in improved grades in German classes and in other academic subjects because of the instructional stimulus. The trips have also generated strong friendships between Chicago and Hamburg students, and some students have even visited each other on their own during subsequent trips.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS/TRIP INFORMATION: Arrangements for this trip are being handled by Dr. Lowell W. Culver at Governors State University, who is the head of the Education Subcommittee of the Chicago-Hamburg Sister Cities Committee. Travel will be via Scandinavian Airlines, departing from O'Hare Airport.

COST: No cost to the Chicago Public Schools. While in Hamburg, lodging and food will be provided by host families without cost to the participants, but each participant is required to pay \$700 for airfare and \$59 for medical and liability insurance. Scholarships have been provided to two students by the Chicago Sister Cities Committee to help defray the costs of the airfare. Fund-raising efforts and parental payments will result in there being no cost to the Chicago Public Schools for this educational exchange program.

CHAPERONES: Supervision of students will be provided for this program pursuant to Board Report 97-1217-PO1 ("Policy on Student Travel"), including proper ratio of students to adults. The Chicago Public Schools teachers who will be participating in this trip are Mr. Helmut Stefan of Lincoln Park High School, Ms. Virginia Apel of Northside College Prep, and Ms. Rhonda Jones, Lane Tech High School.

PARENTAL CONSENT: Parental consent and liability release forms for each student are on file at the respective schools providing indemnification for the school, school personnel, the Chicago Public Schools, the German American National Congress, and the Chicago-Hamburg Sister Cities Committee.

AUTHORIZATION: Authorize the President and Secretary to execute any travel agreements necessary for this program.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Affirmative Action review is not applicable to this report.

LSC REVIEW: The Local School Councils of the respective schools have been informed of the participation of their students in this tour.

FINANCIAL: There is no cost to the Chicago Public Schools.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General -- Each party to any agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34.13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Trustees has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts -- Any agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness -- The Boards Indebtedness Policy adopted July 26, 1995 (95-0726-EX3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of any agreement.

Ethics -- The Boards Ethics Code adopted September 27, 1995 (95-0927-RU3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of any agreement.

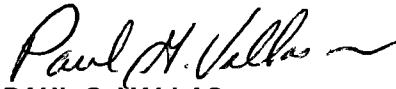
Contingent Liability -- Any agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed to be a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



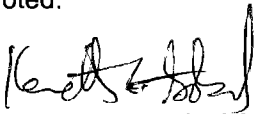
COZETTE BUCKNEY
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



PAUL G. VALLAS
Chief Executive Officer

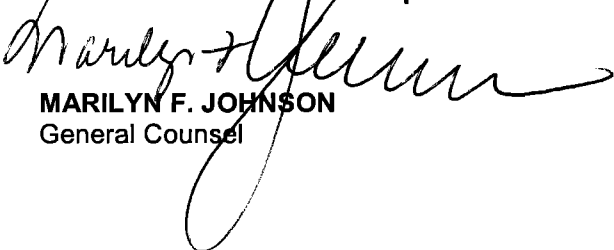
Noted:



KENNETH C. GOTSCH
Chief Fiscal Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

MA



MARILYN F. JOHNSON
General Counsel