

**Board of Education
Darien, Connecticut**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Darien Public Schools'
Administrative Offices
Meeting Room
6:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Proposed Adjournment to Executive Session for the purpose of discussion concerning the employment of public employees and security pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 1-200(6)(A)(C)
3. Reconvene in public session.
4. Adjournment.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023**

**PLACE:
DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS'
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MEETING ROOM
7:30 P.M.**

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. Call to Order..... | Mr. David Dineen | 7:30 p.m. |
| 2. Chairperson's Report..... | Mr. David Dineen | |
| 3. Public Comment*..... | Mr. David Dineen | |
| 4. Superintendent's Report..... | Dr. Alan Addley | |
| 5. Student Representative Reports.. | Mr. John Raskopf
Ms. Swaha Chakraborty | |

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6. Approval of Minutes..... | Board of Education |
| 7. Board Committee Reports..... | Mr. David Dineen |
| 8. Presentations/Discussions | |
| a. Update on District Strategic....
Plan, Board Goals, and Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion | Dr. Alan Addley
Dr. Christopher Tranberg |
| b. Presentation and Possible....
Approval of International Trips
for 2024 | Dr. Christopher Tranberg
Ms. Christina Mauricio
Mr. Francis Janosco |
| c. Annual Review and Possible....
Action on Extending Term of
Reciprocal Agreement for Use
of Facilities with the YMCA | Mr. Richard Rudl |
| d. Discussion and Reflection on FY24..
Board of Education Budget Process | Mr. David Dineen |
| e. Personnel Report..... | Ms. Marjorie Cion |
| 9. Public Comment*..... | Mr. David Dineen |
| 10. Adjournment..... | Mr. David Dineen |

AA:nv

*** * The Board of Education meeting will be available to the public in person and via Zoom. Wearing of masks is optional and seating is limited by room capacity. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for the 6:30 p.m. meeting. The Board will move to adjourn into executive session and reconvene into public session at 7:30 p.m.**

Those members of the community wishing to participate in public comment should join the meeting via Zoom:

<https://darienps.zoom.us/j/91922613568>

Those members of the community wishing to view only, should do so through the Darien Youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUnvyKBfFrTWQRuoB6OZA>

In order to reduce audio interference, members of the community are requested not to simultaneously view by Youtube while participating on Zoom.

APPROVED
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023

PLACE:
DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
MEETING ROOM
VIA ZOOM
7:30 P.M.

Board Members Present:

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Present	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x
Absent									

Administration Present:

Dr. Addley, Dr. Tranberg, Mrs. Klein (via Zoom), Ms. Cion and Mr. Rudl

Audience: Meeting held in Board of Education office and via You Tube / Zoom

1. Call to Order

Mr. David Dineen, Board Chair
At 7:32 p.m. (0:00)

2. Chairperson's Report

Mr. David Dineen
At 7:33 p.m. (0:01)

3. Public Comment

Mr. David Dineen
At 7:36 p.m. (0:04)

Ashley Stockdale	DHS Student
Joanna Walsh	17 Pleasant Street
Carolina McGoey	28 Kensett Lane
Alex Taylor	4 Barringer Road
Gregory Darin	DHS Teacher
Caroline Comfort	38 Noroton Avenue
Julia Shaeffer	741 Hollow Tree Ridge Road
Armel Jacobs	12 Fitch Avenue

4. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Alan Addley
At 7:53 p.m (0:21)

5. Student Representative Reports

Mr. John Raskopf
Ms. Swaha Chakraborty
At 7:59 p.m. (0:27)

6. Approval of Minutes

Mr. David Dineen
At 8:00 p.m. (0:28)

**Motion to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 24, 2023;
Minutes of the Special Meeting held on January 31, 2023:**

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

7. Board Committee Reports

Mr. David Dineen
At 8:01 p.m. (0:29)

PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

8. Presentations/Discussions:

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Move Item 8b before 8a:

1st Mr. Dineen

2ND Mr. Sini

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

- b. Update on Hindley, Holmes, Royle Building Project and Possible Action on three separate motions to approve the final plans and project manual as prepared for bidding dated 2/3/2023 and the professional cost estimate dated 2/3/2023 for Phase 1 Electrical Procurement for the following projects:
Hindley ES State Project Number 035-0121 EA;
Holmes ES State Project Number 035-0122 EA;
Royle ES State Project Number 035-0123 EA,
contingent upon approval of these documents

Ms. Lorel Purcell
O & G Industries
Preconstruction Manager
At 8:03 p.m. (0:31)

by the HHR Building Committee

Motion to approve the final plans and project manual as prepared for bidding dated 2/3/2023 and the professional cost estimate dated 2/3/2023 for Phase 1 Electrical Procurement for Hindley Elementary School State Project Number 035-0121 EA, contingent upon approval of these documents by the Hindley, Holmes, Royle (HHR) Building Committee:

1st Mr. Brown

2nd Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to approve the final plans and project manual as prepared for bidding dated 2/3/2023 and the professional cost estimate dated 2/3/2023 for Phase 1 Electrical Procurement for Holmes Elementary School State Project Number 035-0122 EA, contingent upon approval of these documents by the Hindley, Holmes, Royle (HHR) Building Committee:

1st Ms. Best

2nd Mr. Brown

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Approve the final plans and project manual as prepared for bidding dated 2/3/2023 and the professional cost estimate dated 2/3/2023 for Phase 1 Electrical Procurement for Royle Elementary School State Project Number 035-0123 EA, contingent upon approval of these documents by the Hindley, Holmes, Royle (HHR) Building Committee:

1st Ms. Lublin

2nd Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

- a. Further Discussion and Action on 2023-2024
Proposed Budget

Mr. David Dineen
Dr. Alan Addley
At 8:09 p.m. (0:38)

Motion to Decrease RC-1 DHS 11013 for Bursar/Administrative Assistant by \$10,523:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
No				x					
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-1-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-1 DHS 21501 for Principal/Director Secretary by \$53,124:

1st Ms. Parent

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x	x		x	x		x	x
No	x			x			x		
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (6-3-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-1 DHS 21318 for Building Substitutes by \$27,000:

1st Ms. Wurm

2ND Mr. Brown

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-1 DHS 21306 Teachers of the Gifted by \$16,163:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
No									x
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-1-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-1 DHS 110134 PE Teacher by \$44,884:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x	x	x		x		x	x
No	x				x		x		
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (6-3-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-1 DHS 110124 World Language by \$14,961:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC- 1 DHS 21215 Department Chairs by \$117,771:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-3 MMS 21215 Department Chairs by \$29,443:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-3 MMS 21501 Principal/Director Secretary by \$54,264:

1st Ms. Wurm

2ND Mr. Sini

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-3 MMS 21318 Building Substitutes by \$27,000:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No	x								
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-1-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-3 MMS 25026 Dues, Fees, Memberships by \$774:

1st Ms. Wurm

2ND Ms. Parent

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-3 MMS 25026 Dues, Fees, Memberships by \$414 by:

1st Ms. Wurm

2ND Ms. Parent

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-3 MMS 24011 General Teaching Supplies (Genius Hour) by \$16,125:

1st Ms. Wurm

2ND Mr. Brown

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x							x
No	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION FAILED (2-7-0)

Motion to Increase RC-3 MMS 12001 Consultant Services by \$90,000:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x			x	x		x		
No		x	x			x		x	x
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION FAILED (4-5-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-5 Hindley 21318 Building Substitutes by \$27,000:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-5 Hindley, RC-7 Holmes, RC-8 Ox Ridge, RC-9 Royle, RC-10 Tokeneke 25026 Dues, Fees, Memberships by \$175 each:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-7 Holmes, RC-8 Ox Ridge, RC-9 Royle, RC-10 Tokeneke 21318 Building Substitutes by \$27,000 each:

1st Mr. Brown

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC- 11 Athletic Health & PE 21501 Principal/Director Secretary by \$77,458:

1st Mr. Brown

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
No					x				
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-1-0)

Motion to Increase RC-11 Athletic Health & PE 12001 Assistant Director by \$15,000:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No		x							
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-1-0)

Motion to Decrease RC- 11 Athletic Health & PE 102013 by \$7,500:**1st Mr. Sini****2ND Ms. Best**

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
No		x							x
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (7-2-0)**Motion to Decrease RC-12 Maintenance 62003 Snow Removal by \$15,000:****1st Ms. Best****2ND Ms. Parent**

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x			x			x		
No			x		x	x		x	x
Abstain		x							

RESULT - MOTION FAILED (3-5-1)**Motion to Decrease RC-12 Maintenance 102009 Use of Fields by \$18,752:****1st Mr. Sini****2ND Ms. Best**

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)**Motion to Decrease RC-13 Music 73001 Equipment by \$5,000:****1st****2ND**

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY**Motion to Decrease RC-14 21220 Curriculum Supervision by \$12,881:****1st Mr. Sini****2ND Mr. Maroney**

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x	x		x	x		x	x
No	x			x			x		
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (6-3-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-15 Technology 21201 Director of Instructional Technology by \$195,799:

1st Mr. Brown

2ND Mr. Sini

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
No									
Abstain						x			

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-0-1)

Motion to Increase RC-19 Administration (Technology Coordinator) by \$104,473:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x			x	x	x	x	x	
No		x	x						x
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (6-3-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-15 Technology 73400 Technology Equipment by \$50,000:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-16 Administration 13003 Other BOE Expenses by \$1,000:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-16 Administration 21501 Principal/Director Secretary by \$46,639:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Mr. Sini

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-23 Summer School 21501 Principal/Director Secretary by \$31,093:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Increase RC-23 Summer School 12001 Consultant Services by \$10,000:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-18 Personnel 31000 Budget Control by \$222,921:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Mr. Sini

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
No				x					
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-1-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 12001 Consultant Services by \$15,000:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Mr. Sini

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 12001 Consultant Services by \$30,000:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 22001 Classroom Libraries by \$10,000:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 22001 K-5 Units of Study by \$64,350:

1st Ms. Best

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 25005 Curriculum Research and Development by \$25,420:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Mr. Brown

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x	x			x			x
No	x			x	x		x	x	
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION FAILED (4-5-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 25003 Professional Development by \$9,000:

1st Mr. Brown

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 25026 Dues, Fees, Memberships by \$3,485:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 1912006 Curriculum Coordinator by \$101,438:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-19 Curriculum 25003 Professional Development by \$1,800:

1st Ms. Lublin

2ND Mr. Brown

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		x		x	x				x
No	x		x			x	x	x	
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION FAILED (4-5-0)

Motion to Increase RC-19 Curriculum 21312 Curriculum Development by \$66,150:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-22 Technology Education 52004 Field Trips by \$20,000:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. Wurm

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-22 Technology Education 25003 Professional Development by \$21,200:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease RC-22 Technology Education 73400 Equipment by \$6,000

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Increase RC-24 Special Education 21605 Transportation/Driver by \$93,312:

1st Ms. McCammon

2ND Ms. Parent

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Increase RC-26 Early Learning Program 21501 Principal/Director Secretary by \$77,458:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease RC-8 Ox Ridge 21501 Principal/Director Secretary by \$11,909:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Increase RC-8 Ox Ridge 021063 Instructional Aide by \$34,805, RC-25 84002 FICA by \$2,969, RC-25 82003 Health Insurance by 25,261:

1st Ms. Parent

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x			x	x	x	x		x
No			x					x	
Abstain		x							

RESULT - MOTION PASSES (6-2-1)

Motion to Decrease the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget by \$249,690 per the Memorandum to the Board of Education Dated February 13, 2022 from Dr. Addley and Mr. Rudl:

1st Mr. Dineen

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-0-0)

Motion to Approve an Operating Budget of \$114,549,250 Representing a 3.56% Increase for the 2023-2024 School Year:

1st Mr. Maroney

2nd Ms. McCammon

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (8-0-0)

Motion to Increase the Capital Budget by \$124,000 for Two Suburbans:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Mr. Brown

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Motion to Decrease Capital by \$400,000 for Audio Equipment for the DHS Auditorium Project:

1st

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease Capital by \$53,000 for Video Streaming and Recording for the DHS Auditorium Project:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease Capital by \$25,000 for Communications and Intercom for the DHS Auditorium Project:

1st Mr. Dineen

2ND

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes									
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY

Motion to Decrease Capital by \$370,000 for the Video Wall for the DHS Auditorium Project:

1st Mr. Brown

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		X	X		X	X		X	X
No	X			X			X		
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (6-3-0)

Motion to Decrease Capital by \$25,000 for Confidence Monitor for the DHS Auditorium Project:

1st Mr. Sini

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes		X	X		X	X		X	X
No	X			X			X		
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (6-3-0)

Motion to Approve a Fiscal Year 2023-24 Capital Budget of \$1,052,690:

1st Ms. McCammon

2nd Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

- c. Further Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Revisions to Board of Education Policies – Series 5000/6000: 5130, Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism; 5830, Meal Charging (NEW); 6630, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – Alternative Assessment for Students with Disabilities for Statewide and District Wide Assessments (NEW); 6710, Field Trips; 6810, Reports of Student Progress; 6830, Honor Rolls; 6910, Parent- Teacher Communication; 6920, Weighted Grading and Calculation of Grade Point Averages; 6930, Parental Access to Instructional Material

Mr. David Brown
Ms. Marjorie Cion
At 10:13 p.m. (2:41)

Motion to Approve the Board Policy Changes as Recommended by the Board Policy Committee and as Discussed and Reviewed at the January 24th Board of Education Meeting:

1st Mr. Brown

2ND Mr. Maroney

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No									
Abstain									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

- d. Further Discussion and Possible Action on Board
Master Agenda for February – August 2023

Dr. Alan Addley
At 10:14 p.m. (2:42)

Motion to Approve the Board Master Agenda for February – August 2023 as Discussed and Amended at the January 24th Board of Education Meeting:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

- e. Personnel Report

Ms. Marjorie Cion
At 10:18 p.m. (2:46)

9. Public Comment

Mr. David Dineen
At 10:18 p.m. (2:46)

10. Adjournment

Mr. David Dineen
At 10:19 p.m. (2:47)

Motion to Adjourn:

1st Mr. Maroney

2ND Ms. Best

	Best	Brown	Dineen	Lublin	Maroney	McCammon	Parent	Sini	Wurm
Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
No									

RESULT - MOTION PASSED (9-0-0)

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Parent
Secretary



Darien Public Schools

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Dr. Alan Addley, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Christopher Tranberg, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction

Date: March 15, 2023

RE: Board Updates: Board Goals/Strategic Plan/DEI

This memorandum describes the strategies and early spring updates for each of the four Board goals and seven goals contained in the Strategic Plan. Similar to the fall and winter, these updates are included in one memo as the Board Goals and Strategic Plan are tightly aligned. The work of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion is incorporated into Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan. Both documents guide the District's work in support of our mission of *Inspiring a love of learning in all students so they develop as critical thinkers and innovative creators who contribute to the world with integrity and purpose beyond themselves*. This ultimately helps realize our District vision in *Preparing all students today to thrive in a changing world tomorrow*.



Darien Public Schools

Board Goal 1	Strategic Work
Evaluate and maximize safety and security practices for students and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Review current practices and infrastructure across the District.● Initiate a security audit and implement findings to refine and update school safety and security measures.● Maintain partnerships with public safety officials.● Enhance crisis communication plans.● Provide additional training for administrators, teachers, staff regarding violence prevention, security, and emergency practices.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Final interviews for six SSO candidates with the Superintendent scheduled for the week of March 13th. Extensive screening completed by Director of Security, Chief of Darien Police, Elementary Principals, Director of HR and Director of Finance & Operations.● SSO training begins April 3rd with an anticipated start date in the schools of April 19th.● Working towards CALEA certification (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies).● CIRMA Audit Report presented to the BOE.● Planned visit for Director of Security with elementary PTOs.● BOE Presentation on School Safety and Security by Director of Security.● Completion of monthly safety drills using different scenarios.● Collaboration between building staff, the Director of Security, and the Darien Police during lock down drills and situations pertaining to student safety.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Director of Security hired with a January 9, 2023 start date.● Awaiting updated final CIRMA report inclusive of administrative feedback.● Continued PMT training for staff members.● Completion of monthly safety drills through the use of Alertus.● Continued partnership with Darien Police during lock down drills and situations pertaining to student safety.● Addressed security needs through FY24 Budget requests.	
Fall 2022 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Approval of Director of Security, Elementary School Security Officers and door security enhancements.● Successful launch of new Alertus System.● CIRMA security audit completed with feedback under review by administration.● Schools conducted annual training in safety and security procedures and ran safety drills (fire drills, lockdown drills, shelter in place) with Central Services staff and the Darien Police Department in accordance with District plan.● Training for staff regarding PMT, and RBT practices.	



Darien Public Schools

Board Goal 2	Strategic Work
Support systems and practices to address the mental health and wellness needs of students and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provide a monthly mental health and wellness update to the Board.● Partner with Darien's Mental Health Task Force and Postvention Team members to provide proactive measures to support student, staff, and family wellness.● Promote social and emotional learning Pre-K -12+ to support wellness.● Provide resources to support mental health needs across the District.● Support District participation in the State Pilot of SEL Screening.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Continued RULER implementation with staff and students across schools.● Next mental health updates scheduled for March 28 BOE meeting.● Planning a mental health and SEL presentation for families in April/May.● Middlesex welcomed Tom Varano, Emotions in Art presentation for all students.● Thriving Youth Task Force Survey administered to MMS and DHS students.● Dr. Dadd, Director of Mental Health, starts in Darien on March 20, 2023.● March administration of the DESSA-Mini planned in the elementary schools and MMS.● Continued training with Andy Dousis on Responsive Classroom implementation.● DHS Wellness Week planned for the end of April. DHS will have an AFSP Out of the Darkness Campus Walk on April 30 to raise funds for suicide prevention, raise awareness and reduce the stigma.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Director of Mental Health hired in collaboration with the Town's Director of Human Services.● District administration participation on Town of Darien's Mental Health Task Force's Behavioral Health Subcommittee● Parent SEL session with Dr. Marc Brackett.● Continuation of regular mental health updates.● Development of SEL section of the District website.● Superintendent's Budget developed addressing the mental health needs of students.● SEL update provided to the Board Curriculum Committee.● The DHS Wellness Center is open daily during lunch waves with 50 visits across grade levels.● DESSA Mini Universal Screener completed for students in Grades K-8.● ADL training with MMS Staff for January Professional Development day.● Facilitated SEL meetings for parents across elementary schools.	



Darien Public Schools

Board Goal 2 - Fall 2022 Update

- Approval of Director of Mental Health position.
- Monthly mental health updates provided to the Board.
- All staff participated in QPR suicide prevention training (Question, Persuade, Refer).
- Year 2 of RULER implementation with a specific focus on creating charters and orienting students and families to the “mood meter”.
- Elementary schools have provided staff training for administration of the State Pilot SEL screener (DESSA-mini). Planning to launch the first administration in November. Parent communication sent home.
- Extracurricular Participation meetings held at DHS focused on reducing the stigma associated with Mental Health challenges and the importance of seeking support and opening dialogue.
- The Wellness Center has opened at DHS where students are welcome to disconnect from technology and connect with other peers and support staff when needed.
- Continued collaboration with the Town of Darien Human Services Department Postvention Team and local agencies/providers on strategic Postvention/Prevention planning.



Darien Public Schools

Board Goal 3	Strategic Work
Oversee the Year 2 implementation of the Strategic Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provide governance and support for Year 2 strategies.● Utilize the Strategic Plan to guide policies and decision making.● Revise Strategic Plan to meet District needs.● Provide financial resources through the budget development process.● Establish Superintendent goals that support the Strategic Plan.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Continued Strategic Plan and Goals updates to the Board.● Earlier adoption of Board Goals for 2023-2024 to be scheduled this spring.● FY24 BOE Adopted Budget aligns to and supports Strategic Plan goals.● Use of school improvement plans aligned to the Strategic Plan.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Superintendent's Midyear Evaluation complete.● School and Department Improvement Plans are developed and aligned with the current work of the District's Strategic Plan.● Scheduled Strategic Plan updates provided and presented to the Board.● FY24 Budget requests align and support the Strategic Plan Goals.	
Fall 2022 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● School and Department Improvement Plans are being developed aligned with the current work of the District's Strategic Plan.● Regular updates are scheduled for the Board.● The Strategic Plan is being utilized to support budget requests for FY24.	



Darien Public Schools

Board Goal 4	Strategic Work
Enhance Board and District communications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Establish a BOE Communications Committee.● Provide continuity of meetings and engagement with the community.● Audit current communication systems.● Survey stakeholders to identify preferred means of communication.● Celebrate student and staff achievements.● Provide communication on the Strategic Plan.● Collaborate on shared communication with administration.● Work collaboratively with the Policy Committee to identify policies and procedures to support and enhance District communications.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● BOE Communications Committee developing protocols and work plan to enhance District communications and to develop a Communications Plan.● Chair and Superintendent communication (written and testimony) with State Legislators, Members of the Education Committee and the CSDE Commissioner.● Preliminary timeline for the work of the Communications Committee approved.● Policy Committee ongoing work on policy audit /policy revisions and consideration of <i>Procedures for Challenges to Instructional Materials Policy</i>.● Research for Communications Survey to Stakeholders beginning this spring● Elementary Progress Report Committee convened for the first meeting to research and make recommendations for improvement.● Use of Superintendent weekly communications, school newsletters and website enhancements.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Communications Committee charge was created and a timeline established to guide work over the next year.● Communication Plan Template approved.● Updated District webpage to include Social and Emotional Learning (SEL).● Utilizing the District Chain of Communication to address community concerns.● Developing a process for challenging instructional materials to engage the community in a systematic manner.	



Darien Public Schools

Board Goal 4 - Fall 2022 Update

- BOE Communications Committee established & conducted the first meeting of the Committee.
- Strategic Plan and Goals updates scheduled for the Board.
- Updated dedicated web pages for School Security, Mental Health & DEI.



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 1	Strategy
Enhancing Teaching and Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 1A: Develop a shared vision of teaching and learning.● 1B: Revise and/or create curricula that are designed to responsively represent diverse perspectives as well as meet individual learning needs.● 1C: Align job-embedded professional learning opportunities to support growth and development in identified areas.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Finalizing the District teaching and Learning Principles in partnership with PDEC and adding instructional “look fors” to guide District work.● Curriculum professional development and migration to EduPlanet21 continues across all grade levels and disciplines. Three additional departments have received professional development and all departments have works in progress within the new platform.● ELP teachers worked with Literacy How in the development of integrating language in poem and nursery rhymes, oral language, concepts of print, and phonological awareness.● Co-teaching rounds continue in grade five across elementary schools to support best practices in specially designed instruction (SDI).● Embedded professional development for K-2 teachers focused on the science of reading, new assessments, and planning and implementing targeted small group instruction.● Professional development for 3-5 teachers on planning and implementing differentiated problem-solving tasks and using tools to foster deep conceptual understanding.● Elementary paraprofessionals participated in professional learning around the science of reading and will work with Andy Dousis in mid-March on Responsive Classroom.● Math Acceleration and Gifted Program presentations to the BOE Curriculum Committee and full BOE.● Professional development for gifted teachers to embed blended learning and expand opportunities for student voice and choice.	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 1 - Winter 2023 Update

- The Professional Development and Evaluation Committee (PDEC) reviewed professional development feedback and discussed potential changes to the teacher evaluation and feedback system.
- PDEC provided feedback on the draft Teaching & Learning Principles and offered feedback to provide clarity and purpose.
- Teachers working in teams to develop units of study using the EduPlanet21 platform.
- Math educators worked with an international math clinician, Dr. Yeap Ban Har, to engage in learning related to complex problem solving.
- International visitors from Rotterdam, Netherlands visited to observe our gifted education programming and engage in conversation regarding best practices.
- Teachers are engaging in embedded professional development focused on SEL, literacy and math instruction at the elementary level.
- Approximately twenty teachers and administrators across the District are engaged in training to become ISTE certified educators.
- Secondary English teachers are engaged in developing a policy and set of procedures to guide future recommendations of appropriate instructional text resources.

Fall 2022 Update

- Teaching & Learning Principles are drafted and will be reviewed by the Professional Development and Evaluation Committee (PDEC) in December.
- Department Chairs continue to provide department updates to the BOE Curriculum Committee and are each developing a four year plan for curriculum revision and migration to the EduPlanet21 Platform.
- Teachers are engaging in professional development with Teachers College, Responsive Classroom, RULER, and Math in Focus to support growth and development in the areas of Math, Literacy, and SEL instruction.
- K-2 Classrooms are being trained in the use of new decodable texts (Jump Rope Readers) that represent diverse cultures and the shift in reading instruction.



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 2	Strategy
Fostering a Culture that Promotes Wellness, Diversity, and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 2A: Create a caring school climate that promotes wellness.● 2B: Engage stakeholders in the practice of embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Professional development and individualized coaching on Responsive Classroom practices as part of training for new teachers.● Continuation of MMS School Wide Committees targeting district goals, such as Instruction, Student Voice, and DEI.● MMS partnered with the MPA DEI sub-committee for Black History Month and for Women's History Month.● MPA and DHS PTO offering parent workshop with Lisa Damoura on 5/10/23.● DEI Team began drafting recommendations for presentation to the full Board on June 13th.● Middlesex teachers participated in DEI training presented by the Anti Defamation League (ADL).● Elementary classrooms structure Morning Meetings that include RULER lessons on feelings, inclusion and well being.● Elementary enrichment programs provide exposure to diverse topics and cultures.● Use of elementary literature to represent and portray a variety of perspectives.● DHS Wellness Week is being planned for the end of April.● DHS will have an AFSP Out of the Darkness Campus Walk on April 30 to raise funds for suicide prevention, raise awareness and reduce the stigma.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Elementary schools are continuing to incorporate literature to represent and portray a variety of perspectives.● PTOs partnering with schools to provide diverse enrichment opportunities and parent programming.● All elementary classrooms run Morning Meetings that include discussions of feelings, inclusion, and support overall feelings of well-being in connection with the RULER program.● The DEI Team continues to meet monthly and is on track to make recommendations for consideration later this spring.● Paraprofessionals participated in DEI training during the November PD.● Dr. Marc Brackett visited the District and presented a parent workshop providing an overview of the RULER program.● Director of Mental Health hired.● The District website was updated to provide information on SEL.● RULER rollout continues at MMS with creation of grade level and Team Charters.● Use of mood meter to discuss feelings and embedded into restorative conversations with students at MMS.● Thursday Advisory focuses on RULER and SEL components at MMS.	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 2 - Fall 2022 Update

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Team has had two meetings this school year. They are on track to make recommendations to the Board this spring.
- Principals and staff representatives participate on the District DEI Committee and hold DEI conversations with a network outside of the committee to share new learning.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion page has been added to the District website for easy access and improvised communication.
- RULER lessons developed with key vocabulary words identified for each elementary grade to support language development of feeling words.
- All middle school FLEX classes have RULER and SEL lessons on a weekly basis focused on identifying and understanding feelings, inclusion and community building.
- All elementary classrooms run Morning Meetings that include discussions of feelings, inclusion, and support overall feelings of well-being.
- Elementary schools are using literature to increase awareness of DEI topics.
- Elementary and middle school PTOs are partnering to provide diverse enrichment opportunities and parent programming.
- Parent RULER presentation scheduled with Dr. Marc Brackett.
- The Names Can Really Hurt Us Program is well underway at DHS and the Names Team of students and teachers will be leading the program with facilitators from the ADL for our ninth grade in November.
- Training scheduled for MS teachers with ADL.



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 3	Strategy
Developing a Balanced Definition of Student Success Through the Portrait of the Graduate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3A: Ensure District values are operationalized across all schools.• 3B: Develop systems to measure, inform, and enhance implementation of the Portrait of the Graduate.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core values, mission and vision represented in presentations and professional development.• NEASC spring update to the BOE is scheduled.• Middlesex is incorporating 4 of the 6 Portrait of a Graduate (POG) competencies into Genius Hour.• Planning for administrative June retreat to focus on developing systems to measure, inform and enhance implementation of the Portrait of the Graduate.• Discussion of POG continues at regular administrative meetings.• DHS Seniors are preparing essays exploring their growth in two POG competencies of their choice.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portrait of the Graduate (POG) Competencies incorporated in new units of study as they are developed.• Establishing a committee to create developmentally appropriate Portrait of the Graduate language for PK-5.• Reviewed Portrait of the Graduate competencies with the District Leadership Team.• The DHS POG committee reviewed POG implementation and assessment recommendations with DHS administrators.	
Fall 2022 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portrait of the Graduate Competencies embedded in the new EduPlanet21 curriculum platform.• Portrait of the Graduate language infused in NEASC report and recent NEASC Committee visit.• Currently developing a system (PK-12) to implement and to measure the competencies of the Portrait of a Graduate.	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 4	Strategy
Expanding the Professional Capacity of Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 4A: Explore ways to improve the District's professional learning culture and practices.● 4B: Ensure a professional learning system that promotes continuous growth and support.● 4C: Attract and retain diverse educators.● 4D: Evaluate and adapt the current onboarding system to identify additional supports for teachers, including informal mentors.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Additional focus groups with year 1 and 2 teachers scheduled for the spring to provide feedback for effective onboarding and support practices for new staff.● Continued conversations and professional development with local and state RESC's as well as surrounding districts related to attracting diverse educators.● Draft documents developed to guide district plans to redesign teacher evaluation and feedback systems.● Professional development (January and February) on a variety of discipline and building based topics. Topics included Science of Reading, math, CT SEDS, teacher collaboration, SEL and wellness.● Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) Training for ELP and elementary paraprofessionals.● Secondary faculty and administrators participated in a work-study group on best practices in the implementation of 504 and IEP accommodations and modifications.● Andy Dousis has continued to provide support for staff around Responsive Classroom.● March professional learning opportunities on supporting Multilingual learners	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Teacher contract negotiation complete.● Focus on promoting continuous growth and support through PLCs, SRBI, Faculty Meetings, teacher observations/feedback, and Grade Level Leader meetings.● Ongoing coaching and support provided to new teachers by administration.● Continuing PD focus on teacher-selected PD research, with updates on teacher classroom implementations of learned strategies and approaches.● Concerted effort to offer PD based on teacher feedback and professional goals.● FY 24 budget addresses substitute teacher shortage.● Wilson Reading System Training for special education teachers (K-12).	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 4 - Fall 2022 Update

- Year 2 for CT Teachers in Residence program with two resident teachers placed in elementary school classrooms and a year one resident beginning this year.
- Engaging staff in professional development feedback to balance required and choice professional learning experiences.



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 5	Strategy
Developing and Enhancing Systems to Promote Effective Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5A: Establish effective and open lines of communication among all stakeholders• 5B: Align District's guiding documents and communications with its mission, vision and core values to foster coherence.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elementary Progress Report Committee convened for the first meeting to research and make recommendations for improvement.• BOE Communications Committee developing protocols to enhance District communications and to develop a Communications Plan.• Use of Superintendent weekly communications, school newsletters and website enhancements• Chair and Superintendent communication (written and testimony) with State Legislators, Members of the Education Committee and the CSDE Commissioner.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular meetings of the Board of Education Communications Committee.• Communications template approved.• Developed SEL section on the District website.• Elementary teachers providing proactive SEL communication with families• Gifted educators provide parent information sessions about the gifted education program and identification process.• Continued utilization of Superintendent weekly communications and school newsletters to apprise stakeholders of celebrations and important information.	
Fall 2022 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilizing Superintendent weekly communications and school newsletters to apprise stakeholders of celebrations and important information.• Parent information session offered related to SBAC and NGSS performance results.• Vision and Mission included in website updates and individual schools' virtual message boards.• Updated dedicated web pages for School Security, Mental Health & DEI.	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 6	Strategy
Improving School Facilities for Student Safety & Access to Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">6A: Ensure that the configuration and condition of the District's physical facilities provide secure and supportive environments for teaching and learning student activities.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">HHR is nearing State approval to bid; school level phasing plan developed.Ox Ridge- Phase II progressing well and on schedule.Exterior door security improvements commencing April break.BOE review of CIRMA Audit report.DHS, MMS & TOK Library presentation and discussion with Facilities Committee and Board of Education.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">HHR is entering the Design Development stages. Board approval anticipated January 10, 2023.HHR project was posted to the state list for Governor approval (mid-December)Ox Ridge- Phase II construction in progress.School Security Enhancements- funding was approved by the RTM (late December).Awaiting final draft of CIRMA audit inclusive of administration recommendations.	
Fall 2022 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Schematic Design approval for Holmes, Hindley & RoyleHHR Building Committee continues to meet.Support for Ox Ridge Phase 2 construction.Design phase for DHS, MMS, and Tokeneke Libraries nearing completion.	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 7	Strategy
Improving Technology to Support Teaching & Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7A: Ensure strategic utilization of technology to enrich, support, and inspire teaching and learning.• 7B: Establish and manage a secure, reliable, and dynamic technology system for effective and efficient District operations.
Spring 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DHS Robotics team competes at FIRST FRC events in Waterbury.• ISTE certification training for cohort of DPS teachers and administration.• Professional development for technology education teachers and librarians to support curriculum enhancement.• New cybersecurity training and email filtering systems implemented.• Guy Pratt was selected to present at the 2023 National ISTE Conference “Using Technology to Make Student Thinking Visible”. Dr. Tranberg and Dr. McGettigan were also selected to present at the 2023 National ISTE Conference “Are You Future Ready? Energizing the ISTE Standards Through the Future Ready Framework”.• Redesign of Technology Department (Budget FY24) to best support teaching and learning.	
Winter 2023 Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transition to BYOD at DHS continues to be successful.• Expanding robotics programs at each elementary school.• Video Broadcasting class commences at DHS• Implementation of coding software (Code Monkey) at the elementary level.• iPad Pro pilot group complete and preparing distribution of teacher iPads at DHS.• Library curriculum writing continues.• Tech Ed curriculum kickoff training in EduPlanet.• Cybersecurity enhanced with e-mail filtering and training systems.• Implemented new “eduroam” wireless network, which allows wifi access at any educational facility in the United States.	



Darien Public Schools

Strategic Plan Goal 7 - Fall 2022 Update

- Smooth transition to BYOD at DHS.
- DHS MacAir distribution and training provided to DHS teachers.
- DPS Library Curriculum Training scheduled for Nov. 8
- ISTE Certification Cohort Training - 24 members district wide
- Robotics K-12 program year 2 kicks off.
- Student computer labs updated at DHS.
- New chromebooks distributed to all 5th grade students and elementary classrooms equipped with interactive digital displays.
- Tech Tips distributed to all staff on a weekly basis.

Darien Public Schools

Memorandum

To: Members of the Board of Education, Darien Public Schools; Dr. Alan Addley, Superintendent of Schools
From: Christina Vázquez Mauricio, Chair of World Languages, Grades 6-12
Re: Global Education & International Travel Program at Darien High School
Date: March 10, 2023

Dear Members of the Board of Education and Dr. Addley,

In my role as Chair of World Languages, and in accordance with Board Policy 6710, I would like to ask you and the members of the Darien Board of Education for permission to take a group of Darien High School students on the following trips during the 2023-2024 school year:

- Spanish language immersion in Argentina - April Recess 2024
- French language immersion in France - April Recess 2024
- STEM in London - Summer 2024

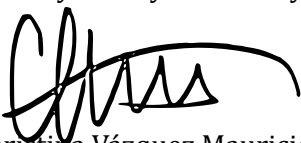
My colleagues at DHS Ralph Hernández and Norma Chajon will be the trip's co-advisors. If approved, the excursions will also be chaperoned by members of the Darien High School faculty. These trips are a continuation of our Global Education and International Travel program, which began in the 2021-2022 school year with trips to Spain and Germany and continues this current year with Galápagos and Italy.

Immersive learning opportunities abroad will cultivate a global perspective and open-mindedness in our children. A Global Education and International Travel Program at Darien High School aligns with our District's mission and vision to provide diverse academic experiences for all students, and it is our hope for our students to have these experiences for years to come. In addition to our language learning trips, we have expanded to offer trips featuring leadership and future career opportunities. As global education becomes part of the fabric of the student experience in our district, our students will return home to enrich our community with their new-found appreciation for the world at large.

We continue to partner with Education First Tours (EF), the global leader in educational travel, as our international travel partner. Over the past 50 years, hundreds of thousands of students have traveled with EF all around the world. Partnering with such a renowned and experienced organization gives our students, families, and community the assurance that our time abroad will be safe and enjoyable, while also having all of the resources at our disposal to mitigate any unforeseen circumstances.

Attached is 1) the presentation I will share with you on Wednesday night, 2) EF's International Travel Program Proposal for these trips, 3) EF's Educational Tour Safety and Security Protocols, 4) DPS BOE Policy 6710: Field Trips, and 5) the Field Trip Request Forms #F2.

Thank you very much for your consideration, and I look forward to sharing more details with you next week.



Christina Vázquez Mauricio

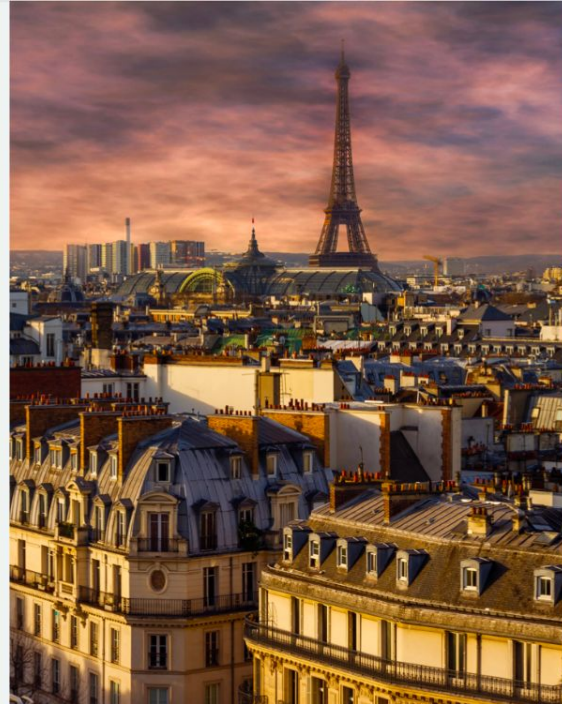


DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

Global Education and International Travel Program

ARGENTINA
FRANCE
APRIL 2024

STEM IN LONDON
JULY 2024





Agenda



- Our program development
- EF partnership + safety on tour
- Itineraries
- Accommodations + meals
- What's included (and what's not)
- Questions

Our program development

- alignment with Strategic Plan & Vision of the Graduate
- two types of trips = wider student interest
- a chance to safely reconnect
- practice real-world language and leadership skills
- community interest survey
- time to consider travel and enrollment
- inform students and families
- increased accessibility: spread payments over a longer period of time
- provide scholarships



What students gain from educational travel

- experiential learning with an academic focus; language + leadership skills
- abstract concepts now become real
- self-confidence, a sense of independence
- real-life language learning
- project-based research
- global perspectives that they bring to their home communities



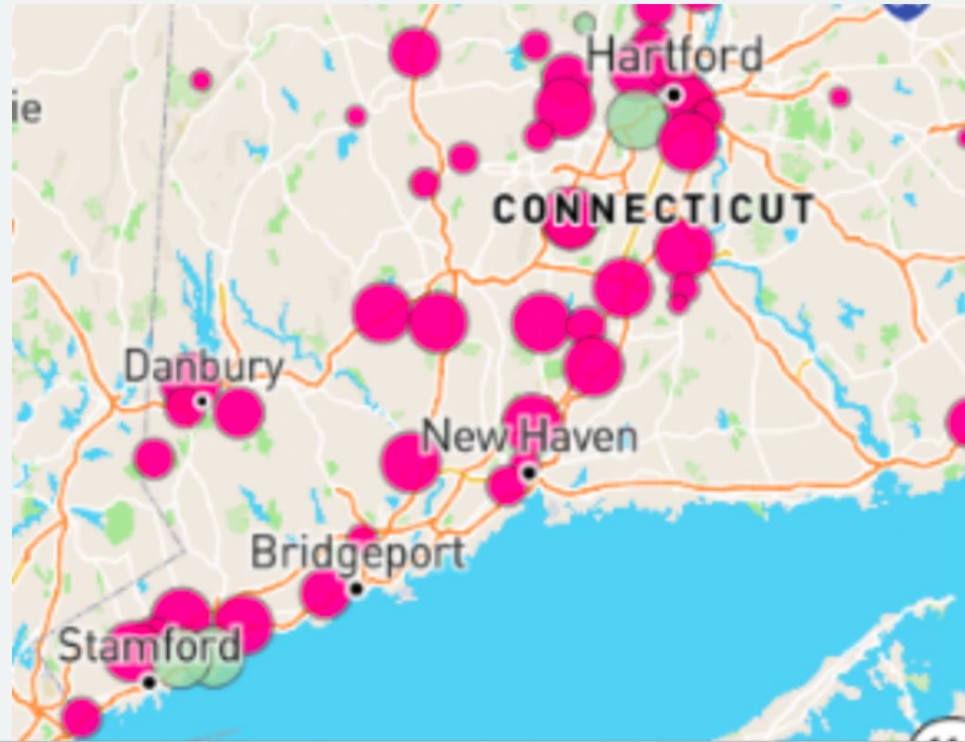
Education First

OUR EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL PARTNER

- over 50 years of experience
- dedicated staff on location 365 days a year
- accredited, just like our schools
- partnerships with school districts all over Connecticut



/ EDUCATIONAL
TOURS



Safety

EF provides our group with

- A dedicated, personal Tour Director on location
- Safety & Incident Response Team
- Safety and health precautions and procedures
- One chaperone spot for every six travelers that enroll
- Support for our District's safety policies
- **EF's Peace of Mind Program & Global Travel Protection**
flexibility to change the dates and destination of tours in uncertain times, following guidelines from the Department of State and Centers for Disease Control

Argentina and Iguazu Falls

Spanish Language Immersion – 9 days – April Break 2024



French Riviera, Lyon, Paris, Normandy

French Language Immersion - 12 days - April Break 2024

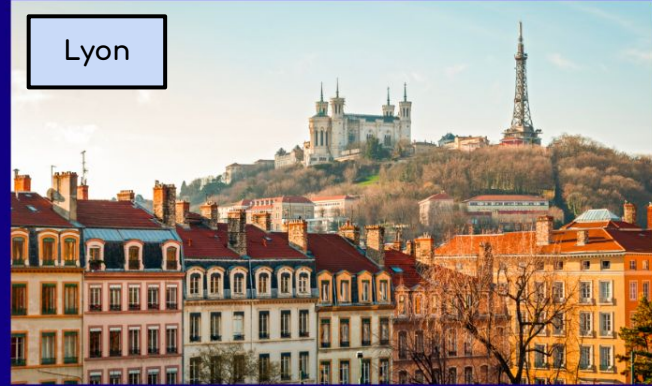
French Riviera



Provence



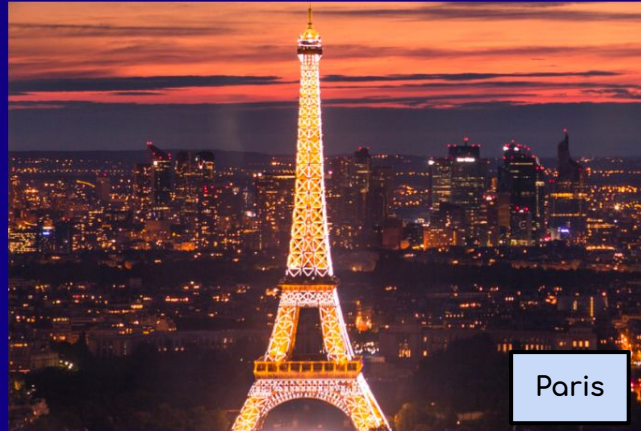
Lyon



Loire Valley Chateaux



Paris



Normandy



STEM in London

STEM Exploration – 9 days – July 2024

Saint Paul's



Big Ben



Buckingham Palace



Stonehenge



Tower of London



Royal Observatory at Greenwich



Accommodations and Meals

All hotel accommodations...

- are centrally located in safe areas
- meet high standards for safety, quality, and cleanliness
- at least three stars with ensuite bathrooms and free wifi for guests
- regularly inspected by EF staff on location

Meals on tour...

- are selected to establish a more immersive cultural experience – we will eat how the locals eat!
- include all breakfasts and dinners

What's included

- round-trip airfare and any transportation while on tour
- all hotel accommodations
- EF Tour Director 24/7
- EF Traveler Support Team 24/7
- all educational programming: guided tours, activities, excursions, courses
- daily breakfast and dinner
- project-based learning program to help with research projects
- customizable tour donation page
- UnCommon App college essay toolkit

Argentina: \$5,429

France: \$4,659

STEM in London: \$4,359

What's not

- ground travel to airport
- passport, visa, and baggage fees
- spending money and tips
- lunches and snacks
- college credit through EF, upon completion of research project
- Global Travel Protection Plan (for a fee; can be added on before tour)



DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

Global Education and International Travel Program

QUESTIONS





/ EDUCATIONAL
TOURS

International Travel Program Proposal

Darien High School / Christina Mauricio and Ralph
Hernandez



World Language Trips - 2023-2024
Argentina / France (Spring '24)
STEM in London (Summer '24)

Your partner in travel-based learning

EF Education First is the world leader in international education. For over 55 years, we've partnered with educators around the world to help more than 15 million students gain new perspectives and build skills for the future through experiential learning.

Our mission is to empower educators to do their best work. At EF Educational Tours, we're working to define the modern educational tour experience. Our itineraries are more than places to go and things to see. We build programs that challenge assumptions, spark connections, and inspire curiosity in young students. Students will expand their knowledge of the world around them, discover more about themselves, grow more confident and independent, and understand new people, places, and cultures.

We take care of every last detail of the tour experience—transportation and lodging, meal reservations and menus, museum tickets and local tour guides, and much more. That also includes behind-the-scenes elements, like safety checks at hotels and background checks on adult travelers. With all that taken care of, educators and students can focus on the bigger picture.

You'll find all the details and more on the next few pages.

Pg. 4	Liability protection
Pg. 6	Affordability
Pg. 7	Educational value
Pg. 8	Itinerary specifics
Pg. 8	Cost and payment options
Pg. 9	Sample hotels
Pg. 10	Sample meals
Pg. 11	Next steps

This proposal is property of EF Education First and the educator/school for which it was intended. Distributing, copying, and/or sharing it are prohibited. The proposal, including pricing, is valid for the educator, tour, and date(s) specifically mentioned herein. For additions, subtractions, or modifications, please contact your EF Tour Consultant.

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What's contained in this document

Pg. 2	Safety
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Safety

Your students' safety is our number one priority. We would never send a traveler to a location we believe to be unsafe—and with our extensive global presence, our best-in-the-industry experience, and our close working relationships with U.S. and international authorities, that's a statement we can back up with real insight. Whether it's a worldwide pandemic or a sprained ankle, a missed flight or confusing medical paperwork, we make sure every situation is taken care of.

***For specific information on EF's response to COVID-19, visit effours.com/covid**

Worldwide presence

EF's global presence is truly unmatched. We have staff on the ground 365 days a year in over 50 countries. And we don't just work in those countries—we call them home. EF team members live in nearly every one of our tour destinations, meaning we have the local knowledge to help keep our groups safe. That presence allows us to be there to support you on the ground wherever and whenever you need us.

24/7 emergency support

In the event that anything on tour goes wrong, EF staff is always available to help. Your Tour Director is your group's constant companion and first point of contact in an emergency. Additionally, our fully trained support teams are on hand 24/7 to walk teachers through any issues and provide the resources necessary to get things back on track. Our Safety and Incident Response Team—comprised of industry experts, healthcare experts, and even former FBI personnel—is ready to spring into action 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. And when they aren't directly helping EF travelers, they're actively innovating on and shaping the new worldwide standards for cleanliness and safety.

Your team

This group is fully committed to your school's trip and the safety of every traveler.

Operations Safety & Incident Response

Team – This team is strategically based in our Boston, Panama, Tokyo, and Zurich offices to accommodate for all time zones. Available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, they are trained to react quickly if travelers need help. The team uses a combination of extensive training, simulations, incident response planning, and previous experience to manage emergencies. As needed, they can facilitate additional support for groups on tour, solve operational issues, arrange assistance from outside specialists, and liaise with local and international authorities.

Emergency Services & Support Team

– Our support team is available 24/7 to help resolve any issue, from a missed flight to a lost passport to more serious on-tour incidents. They also facilitate communication between travelers and families in the event of an emergency at home. The team is made up of highly trained and dedicated EF staff in our Boston and Denver offices who are equipped to solve problems and answer questions that may come up, even outside of regular business hours.

Tour Director – Assigned exclusively to your tour for the length of the stay at your destination, your Tour Director meets your group at the airport and travels with you until your departure. All Tour Directors undergo a background check as permissible by local law every two years and are required to participate in ongoing EF safety trainings. They're the first point of contact in an emergency and also communicate information to help travelers stay safe in a foreign destination. Tour Directors assist Group Leaders with hotel check-ins, coordinate meals, facilitate excursions with local guides, and much more. They're also culturally connected and expertly trained to support impactful learning experiences.

Tour Consultant – This itinerary expert is devoted to the growth of your students. They are your school's partner, working with you on everything from finding the perfect tour and enrolling students to offering fundraising advice and creating long-term travel programs for your school community. They work directly alongside the Group Leader (a.k.a. local teacher), right up until the moment of departure to make sure everything goes smoothly.

Traveler Support – Our team of support specialists are readily available to walk families through insurance inquiries, payment plans, food allergy issues, and any other topics that arise.

Chaperones – For every six travelers who enroll on your school's tour, your group is eligible to bring along a chaperone for free (the first spot goes to the Group Leader). This allows for a 6:1 ratio of students to chaperones, who assist Group Leaders with supervision of students to help keep them safe.

Protection for travelers, schools, and districts

We understand that unpredictable things can happen, either on tour or before departure. We offer a variety of protections, programs, and policies to make sure that, no matter what happens, travelers, schools, and districts are covered. We're doing everything we can to make planning for the future as flexible as possible.

General liability insurance

All Group Leaders, schools, and districts who travel with EF are automatically added as additional insureds under our **\$50 million General Liability Policy**, regardless of whether or not the tour is affiliated with the school. EF's liability coverage is primary and non-contributory for covered third-party claims. The policy helps safeguard Group Leaders and their schools for covered third-party claims related to bodily injury or property damage, which includes providing a legal defense and covering legal costs for such claims. In addition, all travelers are required to sign EF's Release and Agreement, which includes a release of liability of their Group Leader, school, and school board.

Flexibility to change tours

The world is always changing. And while our belief in the positive impact of travel is unwavering, it can feel hard to predict what life, here in the U.S. and abroad, will look like several months, a year, or even two years from now. When you decide to travel with EF, we want you to feel secure in that decision. That's why these benefits are built into every EF program.

Peace of Mind

Provided to all groups

We understand that plans can change due to unforeseen circumstances. EF provides this exclusive program to account for such situations. It provides groups with flexibility to change the dates and destination of their tours in uncertain times. This program accounts for such circumstances and can be enacted up to 45 days prior to departure at the group level for any reason, including terrorism or other world events.

COVID Care Promise

Provided to all groups

If your child is diagnosed with COVID-19 while on tour, we will coordinate and facilitate support services and logistics including translation services, connections with local health care providers, communication with family, and flights home at no additional cost.

Protection for individual travelers

Travelers can help protect their investment and themselves from certain unexpected events and expenses while on tour with the Global Travel Protection Plan and Global Travel Protection Plan Plus.

Global Travel Protection Plan

Available to all travelers

Designed specifically with EF travelers in mind, this plan provides both pre-departure and post-departure benefits, including medical expense coverage that may apply on tour and tour cancellation for specified reasons.

Global Travel Protection Plan Plus

Available to all travelers

To further protect your investment from the unexpected, this plan provides all of the benefits included in the Global Travel Protection Plan as well as expanded cancellation protection.

Background checks for adult travelers

EF requires all adults (20 years and older) to pass a criminal background check before traveling on our student tours. This provides a safer tour experience for all travelers and aligns with the process and expectations of many school districts for adults who volunteer in schools or chaperone school activities. The secure process, provided by a leading professional provider, only identifies those individuals who could present a risk to student travelers while on tour.

Affordability

We believe every student should have the opportunity to travel. That's why we're dedicated to providing the lowest prices possible and giving travelers multiple resources for managing payments.

Tour Consultants work closely with teachers to build a tour that's exactly right for your students. Through discussions with your teacher, they take into account learning objectives, cost, timing considerations, and any other factors to craft a tour that's accessible to as many students as possible.

Resources for managing cost and payments

Automatic Payment Plan – Our recommended payment plan offers the ability to break the tour fee into smaller installments. With most tours planned well in advance, travelers can enroll for only \$95, then pay over a long period of time—often up to 18 months or two years—with final payment due 30 days before departure. Families make payments directly to EF, with no payments going through the school.

Donation pages – Each student has access to their own unique and customizable donation page. The easy-to-share page makes it simple for friends and family to contribute a little something that is automatically applied to the balance of the tour, with no fees whatsoever.

Global Citizen Scholarship Fund – EF Educational Tours provides \$100,000 worth of scholarships to students across the country every year. Any student is able to apply for the Global Citizen Scholarship, which is awarded on both a merit and need basis.

Risk-free enrollment period - New travelers who enroll by their Early Enrollment Discount Deadline can cancel for any reason up to 14 days after enrollment for a full refund of 100% of the money paid to EF. Travelers must pay in full or enroll in our Automatic Payment Plan at the time of program enrollment and must remain either paid in full or enrolled in our Automatic Payment Plan and in good financial standing at the time of cancellation to remain eligible. To be eligible, the traveler must enroll on a tour at least 110 days prior to the scheduled departure date.

Educational value

Our tours help prepare students for the future by teaching them more about the world, themselves, and the impact they can have on the

world. Combining the power of experiential learning with the thrill of global travel, our tours help students:

- Expand their knowledge of the world around them
- Grow more confident and independent
- Understand new people, places, and cultures
- Discover more about themselves

To learn more about EF's educational philosophy, visit <https://www.eftours.com/our-story/educational-approach>

EF is an accredited institution

We echo your commitment to education. Our travel-based learning approach is designed to blend classroom and experiential learning. This allows us to meet the same rigorous standards as schools like yours, ensuring students gain valuable experiences that transform the way they look at the world.



Earning credit for new experiences

EF makes it easy for students to turn their tour experience into high school credit, college credit, or to get a head start on their college essays—all while making their travel experience even more engaging.

- Students in grades 6 - 12 can earn .5 elective high school credit by successfully completing the final project as part of EF's Personalized Learning Guide. Tuition is free.
- Students in grades 9 - 12 can earn 3.0 undergraduate credits, along with the confidence that comes with taking a college course, by completing a series of assignments and a final research project with our partner, Southern New Hampshire University—all for just \$215.
- Educators traveling on student tours may earn up to 45 free hours toward relicensure OR 3 or 6 graduate level credits (\$285/\$450) through Southern New Hampshire University.

Itinerary specifics

For more robust details, the complete itinerary is attached to this document. It includes specific locations, each day's activities, travel plans, and more.


What you'll experience on your tour

Day 1: Fly overnight to Argentina


Days 2: Buenos Aires

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport in Buenos Aires and discover the city where tango was born.

Days 3: Buenos Aires

- On your guided tour of Buenos Aires, head to Plaza de Mayo, home to Casa Rosada (the government house). Continue on to San Telmo, the city's oldest barrio, where tango performances abound. Stop in the colorful neighborhood of La Boca, an area once inhabited by immigrants that has become a hub for the city's artists. You can admire the Colón Theatre, one of the world's best-known opera houses. After seeing Palermo, the city's largest neighborhood, you'll see the glamorous Recoleta area, where you can visit the grave of Eva Perón.
- Take an excursion to the Tigre area.
- Time to explore more of Buenos Aires or  take a tango lesson.

Day 4: Buenos Aires

- Full day to explore more of Buenos Aires or  take a full-day optional excursion across the Rio de la Plata to Uruguay and explore the quaint colonial city of Colonia del Sacramento. Originally founded as a Portuguese outpost situated on a strategic waterway, Spain gained control of the fortress in 1777. Now, it is a resort city, a port, and a popular trade center for agriculture. With its quintessential cottages and cobblestone roads, Colonia del Sacramento was named a UNESCO heritage site in 1995. Explore the area's colonial architecture, winding streets, and colorfully tiled homes. See the Church of Matriz del Santisimo, the oldest church in Uruguay, as well as the Plaza Mayor, the House of Viceroy, and the ruins of a Franciscan convent.

Day 5: Buenos Aires

- Participate in a traditional Fiesta Gaucha.

Day 6: Iguazú

- Fly to Iguazú.
- Visit the Güirá Oga wildlife refuge.

Day 7: Iguazú

- View the breathtaking Iguazú Falls, also known as Devil's Throat, from the Argentine side.
- Take a boat ride.

Day 8: Buenos Aires | Depart for home

- Fly to Buenos Aires.
- Board an overnight flight.

Day 9: Arrive home

3-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

Day 8: Fly to Rio de Janeiro

Day 9: Rio de Janeiro

- Take a guided tour of Colonial Rio: Catedral Metropolitana; Pyramid Fountain; Paço Imperial; São Bento Monastery.
- Visit a samba school.
- Participate in samba lesson.

Day 10: Rio de Janeiro

- Take a tropical island excursion.

Day 11: Rio de Janeiro | Depart for home

- Take a guided tour of Corcovado.
- Board an overnight flight.

Day 12: Arrive home

My students came away with a deep understanding of the history, tradition, and culture around Buenos Aires, the tango, and so much more.

– KELLY, GROUP LEADER



I'm now moving to South America to teach English as a foreign language in order to experience more of this amazing continent that EF helped introduce me to! Thank you EF!!

– PAUL, TRAVELER



TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY, OR EXPLORE

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

ARGENTINA - SPRING '24

Price of the proposed tour

The tour program price covers a wide range of services that ensure students have an incredible experience. It includes all the planning and preparation that leads up to departure, travel and accommodations, plus logistical support and details once the group reaches their destination.

Full proposed travel date range: April 11 - April 21

Requested travel dates: April 12 - 20

Price Details	
Viva Argentina	
Program Price ¹	\$4,849
Includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Round-trip airfare and on tour transportation• Hotels with private bathrooms• Breakfast and dinner (see your itinerary for meal details)• Full-time Tour Director• Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions	
Tango show and class	\$120
Colonia del Sacramento	\$270
Global Travel Protection	\$190
EF's Peace of Mind Program *	Free
Total for Students (under 20)	\$5,429
13 monthly payments	\$411/mo

Sample hotels

Every hotel we work with must meet our high standards for safety, quality, and cleanliness. Hotels are vetted by our team to make sure they meet our requirements and are subsequently inspected regularly to ensure they continue to satisfy those parameters. Please note that hotels abroad may have different amenities than travelers are accustomed to in the United States.

An example of a hotel students might stay in on tour:

Loi Suites Esmeralda

www.loisuites.com.ar/en/

Located in the heart of the financial district, Loi Suites Esmeralda puts guests within walking distance of local eateries, public parks, and shops. Those looking for more Argentinian history may enjoy scouting for nearby landmarks before returning to the hotel for a restful night's sleep. Iguazú Viale Towers Hotel Av. Jorge Schimmelpfeng, 232 - Centro, Foz do Iguaçu - PR, 85851-110, Brazil www.vialehoteis.com.br The Viale Towers Hotel stands a striking 17 stories up from central Iguazú. Relax in the rooftop infinity pool and take in the stunning views of Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay. Located in a lively area, guests have easy access to local restaurants and shops.

Sample meals

Meals are selected to establish a more immersive cultural experience and give students an idea of how locals eat. Below are some examples of local dishes travelers may try at the destination that your teacher has chosen, but please note that meals can vary from tour to tour.

On tour, breakfast generally is simple and will be at the hotel; it could be plated or buffet-style.

Lunch typically is your chance to make culinary discoveries of your own. **Dinners** will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties. All meals will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties all served from a pre-set group menu.

ARGENTINA - SPRING '24



Sample menu items include empanadas and asado.

Every meal will include water and you can usually buy other beverages if you wish. Common side dishes typically include white rice, plantains (fried or sweet), beans (red kidney beans or lentils), and salad (usually a combination of lettuce, tomatoes, carrots, onions, with some variations). Proteins vary between beef, chicken, and fish (varies across region, but sea bass is very common). All meals are served as a group—not à la carte—and a vegetarian/alternative option will be available if requested in advance. Please notify EF of any other dietary restrictions or food allergies you may have. Enjoy!

What you'll experience on your tour

Day 1: Fly overnight to France

Day 2: French Riviera

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport in the French Riviera.
- Take a walking tour of Nice: Vieille Ville; Promenade des Anglais.

Day 3: French Riviera

- Visit the principality of Monaco: Prince's Palace; Monaco Cathedral; Monte-Carlo Casino.
- Take in the beautiful scenery of Eze.

Day 4: Nîmes | Provence

- Visit the Pont du Gard.
- Take a tour of Nîmes.
- Visit the Nîmes Amphitheater.
- Travel to Provence.

Day 5: Provence | Lyon

- Take a tour of Avignon.
- Travel to Lyon.
- Visit the Lugdunum Museum and Roman Theatres to see traces of ancient Rome's conquests in France. Boasting one of the finest archaeological collections in the country, you'll explore the lives of the former residents of this Roman city, founded in 43 B.C.

Day 6: Lyon | Loire Valley

- Take a walking tour of Lyon.
- Travel to the Loire Valley, sometimes called the "playground of Kings."

Day 7: Loire Valley

- Take an expertly guided tour of the Loire Valley
- Visit the Château de Chenonceau and learn about its romantic history. This breathtaking architectural marvel actually extends across the River Cher, supported by submerged pillars that form a pattern of arches on the water's surface.
- Visit the majestic gardens of Amboise, a Renaissance-style château in the Loire Valley. Take in the same sweeping vistas once enjoyed by Louis XI, Louis XII, and Leonardo da Vinci, who all made homes here.
- Visit and dine at the maze-like troglodyte dwellings. These subterranean grottos are still used today as chapels, bakeries, and wine cellars.

Day 8: Loire Valley | Paris

- Visit Chartres Cathedral.
- Continue to Paris, the City of Light.
- Take a walking tour of Paris: Opéra district; Place Vendôme; Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré; Tuileries.
- Visit the Louvre, which is home to treasures like Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*.

Day 9: Paris

- Take an expertly guided tour of Paris: Place de la Concorde; Champs-Élysées; Arc de Triomphe; Les Invalides; Eiffel Tower.
- Catch a glimpse of Notre-Dame Cathedral.
- Time to see more of Paris or [visit Versailles](#).
- Enjoy a Seine River cruise.

Day 10: Depart for home

2-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

Days 10-11: Normandy | Paris

- Visit the Caen Memorial.
- Visit the D-Day beaches of Normandy.
- Visit the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer.
- Stop at Pointe du Hoc.
- Return to Paris.

Day 12: Depart for home



Take me back <3 #paris
#france #springbreak
#spring #break #eiffel #tower
#eiffeltower #beautiful
#travel #trip #amazing #miss
#sky #blue #brown #trees
#tourist #dream #come #true
#tour #ef #eftours #eftour

– STEPHANIE, TRAVELER



Via Instagram

this trip was just simply
breathtaking! it was the best
place in the world! plus you
have to love the metro :)

– CAITLIN, TRAVELER



Tour review

TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY, OR EXPLORE

1.

2.

3.

Price of the proposed tour

The tour program price covers a wide range of services that ensure students have an incredible experience. It includes all the planning and preparation that leads up to departure, travel and accommodations, plus logistical support and details once the group reaches their destination.

Full proposed travel date range: April 11 - April 24

Requested travel dates: April 12 - April 23

Price Details

Paris, the Loire and the Riviera

Program Price ¹	\$4,359
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Includes:

- Round-trip airfare and on tour transportation
- Hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast and dinner (see your itinerary for meal details)
- Full-time Tour Director
- Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions
- 2-day extension in Normandy

Versailles	\$110
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Global Travel Protection	\$190
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EF's Peace of Mind Program *	Free
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Total for Students (under 20)	\$4,659
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13 monthly payments	\$352/mo
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Sample hotels

Every hotel we work with must meet our high standards for safety, quality, and cleanliness. Hotels are vetted by our team to make sure they meet our requirements and are subsequently inspected regularly to ensure they continue to satisfy those parameters. Please note that hotels abroad may have different amenities than travelers are accustomed to in the United States.

Here are some examples of hotels students might stay in on tour:

B&B Hotel LaBocca Beach | French Riviera

www.hotelbb.de

With its stunning views of La Bocca Beach and close proximity to central Cannes, the B&B Hotel offers guests the best of nature and bustling city life. Just a short walk away is Boulevard de la Croisette, the famous palm-tree lined road boasting many shops, restaurants, and beach views. Each of the hotel's modern rooms are designed for comfort and boasts free Wi-Fi and a flat screen TV.

Hotel Novotel Marne La Vallee Collegien | Paris

www.novotel.com/gb/hotel-0385-novotel-marne-la-vallee-collegien/index.shtml

Contemporary yet comfortable in design, all of this hotel's 193 spacious rooms include air conditioning, flat-screen TVs, and queen-sized beds. Guests can challenge each other to a game of outdoor table tennis or basketball, relax on the terrace, or take a dip in the pool.

Ibis Style Roissy | Paris

<https://all.accor.com/hotel/0815/index.en.shtml>

The Ibis Style Roissy is conveniently located in a northern suburb of Paris and offers a comfortable stay with a modern, colorful decor. Amenities include air-conditioned rooms and complimentary Wi-Fi in communal areas. Guests may choose to lounge in the spacious lobby or admire the Parisian sky through the skylights in the stylish breakfast room.

Sample meals

Meals are selected to establish a more immersive cultural experience and give students an idea of how locals eat. Below are some examples of local dishes travelers may try at the destination that your teacher has chosen, but please note that meals can vary from tour to tour.

On tour, breakfast generally is simple and will be at the hotel; it could be plated or buffet-style.

Lunch typically is your chance to make culinary discoveries of your own. **Dinners** will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties. All meals will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties all served from a pre-set group menu.



France: Sample Meals

Cheese quiche, turkey with rice, sauce, mushroom and beans, apple tart
Salad, flammekueche, chocolate mousse
Couscous with vegetables and meat fruit salad

Explore a world built on STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math shape communities across the globe. Our STEM-focused tours showcase the value of diverse ways of thinking and building, while also highlighting the powerful universality of STEM subjects. At EF, we've spent over 55 years witnessing the power of educational travel, and we know how it can transform STEM learners. Each STEM tour challenges travelers to think critically, and helps students develop innovative solutions to global problems.

At Bletchley Park, discover how code breakers used math to decipher secret messages, such as those transmitted by this Enigma machine during World War II.

▼



What to expect on a STEM tour

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Apply STEM principles by participating in project-based learning that goes well beyond theory.

INNOVATIVE LOCATIONS

Tour exciting international destinations that host some of the world's most advanced laboratories, universities, and companies, or are simply perfect global "classrooms" to study analytical issues of the day in real life.

INDUSTRY EXPERTS

Collaborate and learn with scientists, engineers, researchers, and other STEM practitioners in the field.



YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

Full-time Tour Director; sightseeing tours; entrance fees for London Eye, Science Museum/Natural History Museum, forensics workshop, Stonehenge, Tower of London, theater show, Bletchley Park, Thames River cruise, Royal Observatory; round-trip flights; 7 overnight stays in hotels (9 *with extension*); breakfast and dinner daily

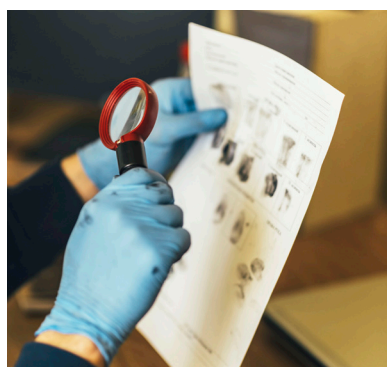
“I love when my students see the benefits of their discovery and creation—I think it is important for them to see others in that career.”

Victoria O., Science Department Chair



^

Take in views of Big Ben, London's world-famous clock, on a guided tour.



<

Become a detective for a day during an interactive forensics workshop.

Days 1–2: Fly to England

Fly overnight to London and meet your Tour Director at the airport. Take a walking tour of the city and ride the London Eye, a large Ferris wheel along the River Thames that offers panoramic views of the city.

Day 3: London

See St. Paul's Cathedral, Big Ben, and Buckingham Palace on an expert-led tour of England's capital. In the afternoon, your group can choose to visit either the Natural History Museum or the Science Museum. Tonight, follow in the footsteps of London's famous 19th-century serial killer, Jack the Ripper, on a walking tour.

Day 4: London

Today, channel the spirit of CSI while you explore forensic science. Learn criminal investigation skills—such as fingerprint analysis and crime scene assessment—during an interactive workshop. Then, get your questions answered by local forensics experts who are driving important innovations in the field.

Day 5: Stonehenge | London

Stonehenge's origin is an unsolved mystery. Your morning activity lets you create your own version of the famous circle as you learn about the challenges involved in moving and arranging the heavy stones. Then see the prehistoric landmark for yourself.

Day 6: London

Visit the Tower of London, a medieval castle and former prison, to hear the stories behind its stone façade. Then explore the city on your own before attending a theater performance.

Day 7: Bletchley Park | London

At Bletchley Park, home of British code breaking, learn about the role math can play in the world of secrets and spies, and how it affected the outcome of World War II. Try your hand at cracking codes during an interactive workshop, and see the giant Colossus computer that broke the Enigma code.

Day 8: London

Cruise along the Thames to Greenwich, where you'll visit the Royal Observatory. Stand on the Prime Meridian, dividing the world's hemispheres, and see astrological attractions that include a 4.5-billion-year-old meteorite and an octagonal room designed for stargazing.

Days 9–11: Return home or add extension

Depart for home on Day 9 or extend your trip to Paris. On a guided tour, see the Place de la Concorde, the Arc de Triomphe, and the Eiffel Tower. You'll also meet the *Mona Lisa* at the Louvre, and get to catch a glimpse of Notre-Dame.

STEM IN LONDON - SUMMER '24

Price of the proposed tour

The tour program price covers a wide range of services that ensure students have an incredible experience. It includes all the planning and preparation that leads up to departure, travel and accommodations, plus logistical support and details once the group reaches their destination.

Full proposed travel date range: July 1 - July 17

Requested travel dates: July 5 - July 13

Price Details

STEM Discovery: London

Program Price ¹	\$4,169
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Includes:

- Round-trip airfare and on tour transportation
- Hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast and dinner (see your itinerary for meal details)
- Full-time Tour Director
- Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions

Global Travel Protection	\$190
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EF's Peace of Mind Program *	Free
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Total for Students (under 20)	\$4,359
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16 monthly payments	\$267/mo
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Sample hotels

Every hotel we work with must meet our high standards for safety, quality, and cleanliness. Hotels are vetted by our team to make sure they meet our requirements and are subsequently inspected regularly to ensure they continue to satisfy those parameters. Please note that hotels abroad may have different amenities than travelers are accustomed to in the United States.

STEM IN LONDON - SUMMER '24

Here are some examples of hotels students might stay in on tour:

Best Western London Ariel Hotel | London

<https://www.bestwestern.co.uk/hotels/best-western-london-heathrow-ariel-hotel-84316>

Located next to London's Heathrow airport, but with easy access to central London via public transportation, the Best Western London Ariel offers a quiet stay away from the hustle and bustle of the big city. Guests may relax in their modern-style bedrooms while taking advantage of complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel. Additional amenities include elevator service to all floors and a full breakfast buffet.

Holiday Inn Express London Heathrow Terminal 4 | London

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/gb/en/hounslow/lonrs/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps-_-EX-_-GB-_-LONRS

Only a short 30-min ride away from the medieval Windsor castle, the Holiday Inn Express is contemporary in design and boasts all the comforts of a modern hotel. A hot breakfast buffet is available daily in the dining area and guests can embrace British tea culture right from their bedrooms with their own tea and coffee making facilities. Additional room amenities include air conditioning, Wi-Fi, a television, and hair dryer.

Ibis London Sutton Point | London

https://all.accor.com/hotel/B5J1/index.en.shtml?v_source=1_MjA4NDc3ODgtNzE1LWxvY2F0aW9uLndiYnNpdGU%3D#section-description

A short 12 miles from central London, the Ibis London Sutton Point lies in the heart of Sutton, a borough of London characterized by its village-like atmosphere. This hotel's air-conditioned bedrooms are comfortably furnished and feature an industrial-inspired design. Guests will enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel and a choice of hot or cold breakfast options daily.

Sample meals

Meals are selected to establish a more immersive cultural experience and give students an idea of how locals eat. Below are some examples of local dishes travelers may try at the destination that your teacher has chosen, but please note that meals can vary from tour to tour.

On tour, breakfast generally is simple and will be at the hotel; it could be plated or buffet-style.

Lunch typically is your chance to make culinary discoveries of your own. **Dinners** will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties. All meals will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties all served from a pre-set group menu.

STEM IN LONDON - SUMMER '24



The United Kingdom: Sample Meals

Fish and chips, ice cream
Chicken and hummus, flan
Naan bread, chicken curry

How I can help with next steps

My name is Rachel Wasserman and I am Darien High School's dedicated Tour Consultant. That means I'll be working with Christina Mauricio and Ralph Hernandez every step of the way to make sure everything is perfectly planned.

Please note the price quoted above is valid through March 31, 2023.

The next step in this process is to host a parent information meeting for families to enroll their travelers. Hosting a meeting this month will allow families ample opportunities to work this trip into their budgets and take advantage of lower monthly payment plans.

I hope this overview has given you the information you need to feel confident in EF as an educational travel provider. Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. EF is excited to partner with your school to bring this life-changing experiential learning opportunity to your students.

Sincerely,
Rachel Wasserman
Tour Consultant
475-256-043
rachel.wasserman@ef.com



Educational Tours

Educational Tour Safety & Security

- A partner you can count on
- Preparing for the tour experience
- Your safety team here and abroad
- Responding to on-tour incidents
- Protection for districts and travelers

A partner you can count on:

For over 50 years, EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Together with educators like you, we help more than a million students experience our programs every year and transform their perspectives on the world.

Throughout our entire history, the safety of our travelers has been our biggest priority. We train our staff to help with any kind of situation—from lost passports to airline strikes to natural disasters. What's more, with more than 43,000 EF staff and faculty around the globe, we have a presence in nearly every destination we travel to and can be there to support you on the ground wherever and whenever you need us.

Preparing for the tour experience:

EF Safety First program

The EF Safety First program was created to provide the safest possible tour experience for our customers and takes operational preventative measures to help ensure the safety and welfare of our travelers on all our tours. Some of the many aspects of the program include:

- Providing training and safety information about the tours, itineraries and destinations to staff, customers, and Tour Directors to prepare all parties for their tours and common situations that may arise
- Monitoring and reacting to news and warnings in real-time using public world news alerts, local knowledge, industry updates, credible third party alert services, and US Department of State Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts to make timely decisions on behalf of our customers. It is EF's policy that we will not travel to locations where the US Department of State has issued a formal Travel Warning advising against travel
- Creating and using supplier screening criteria (e.g., for hotels and buses), which are relevant for our customers and are often more detailed than local safety standards
- Maintaining supplier contracts that contain specific safety clauses to reflect our standards
- Completing supplier safety checks, spot checks, and risk assessments to confirm that our criteria are being met
- Routinely vetting destinations, itineraries, and activities for a number of safety factors
- Consulting with iJet International, Inc. and other risk specialists, lawyers, and insurers to make safety-related decisions

Hotels

For travelers' protection and comfort, our team regularly inspects hotels to determine whether they comply with EF's standards for cleanliness, quality, and, most importantly, safety. When identifying hotels to work with, our team evaluates whether the properties meet local standards, including means of fire detection and alert as well as available emergency exits. EF also works with industry expert Argent Health and Safety as we regularly review and evaluate our hotel standards and selection process. Additionally, Tour Directors conduct nightly checks at all hotels to evaluate compliance with key safety requirements.

Transportation

EF works with major U.S. and international air carriers to transport groups to and from their destination. Once on tour, our groups travel, with limited exceptions, by public transportation or EF-arranged coach buses. EF's Operations team vets coach bus suppliers for compliance with local safety standards. In some cases, stricter safety and quality standards are specifically required by EF. Considerations within our transportation contracts include inspection history of vehicles, driver qualifications and licensing, insurance coverage held by the company, etc. Additionally, we vet other transportation suppliers such as cruises, ferries, and trains. We not only take into account the safety records of the suppliers but also assess the specific routings we use to ensure our safety standards are met. In the event we do not feel comfortable with a routing we will evaluate whether to amend our tour itineraries accordingly.

Activities

A large part of time on tour is spent taking part in educational and experiential activities, from museum visits to zip lining to taking part in a cooking class. Each activity and supplier is selected to meet our standards for educational focus, and just as importantly, for their ability to provide a safe experience.

Crowd safety

Many of the destinations on our tours are popular with tourists or locals, and as such may tend to be crowded. Tour Directors are trained to communicate relevant guidelines to travelers before navigating busy sites and/or taking part in activities where large crowds may be present. These guidelines may include identifying assembly points, alerting travelers to multiple exits from crowded places, reminding travelers to keep snacks and extra clothing layers with them in case they are out longer than expected, and ensuring everyone has the Tour Director's contact information. We also evaluate specific events where large groups are likely to be assembled to determine whether they are appropriate for our travelers to take part in.

Tour Directors

Tour Directors meet travelers at the airport of their arrival destination, and travel with groups until they depart for home. Tour Directors undergo background checks (as is consistent with local laws) every two years and are required to participate in ongoing EF safety trainings. Specifically, they are trained to:

- Communicate relevant safety information to travelers, including advising on how to stay safe during free time
- Share their contact details with travelers so they can be reached to assist with any on-tour emergencies
- Identify, resolve, and when necessary, escalate on-tour safety concerns
- Carry out nightly hotel checks as well as spot checks with suppliers and activities
- Assist with emergencies that may arise and coordinate with EF's Safety & Incident Response Team abroad and Emergency Service & Support Team in the U.S.

Your safety team here and abroad:

Worldwide presence

EF is the largest international student travel organization, with 500 schools and offices in more than 50 countries worldwide, including regional offices dedicated to on-tour support. Our 43,000 staff and faculty members around the world provide a local presence and are able to react quickly and in person where necessary. The staff in each office and school are trained to respond to a wide range of emergency situations.

Operations Safety & Incident Response Team

EF's Operations Safety & Incident Response Team, based in our European headquarters in Lucerne, Switzerland, supports our travelers and Tour Directors 24/7. This team uses a combination of extensive training, simulations, incident response planning, and previous experience to manage emergencies. As needed, the team can facilitate additional support for groups on tour, solve operational issues, arrange assistance from outside specialists, and liaise with local and international authorities. The team works in close partnership with our Emergency Service & Support Team in the U.S. and the Tour Directors to quickly and effectively address on-tour emergencies. The team is also responsible for proactively confirming the safety of our groups in the event of a major world event or natural disaster.

Emergency Service & Support Team

EF's dedicated Emergency Service and Support Team is available 24/7 to help resolve any issue, from a missed flight to a lost passport to more serious on-tour incidents. They also facilitate communication between

travelers and families in the event of an emergency at home. The Emergency Service & Support Team is made up of highly trained, dedicated EF staff based in our Boston and Denver offices who are equipped to solve problems and answer questions that may come up, even outside of regular business hours. This team also maintains direct communication with our Operations Safety & Incident Response Team in Switzerland to jointly solve issues as needed.

Responding to on-tour incidents:

Our experience handling travel incidents

Throughout our 50 years of experience, we have learned from many common and unexpected events around the world and have trained our staff on how to handle them should similar situations affect our travelers. Tour Directors also have training and experience dealing with common events such as flight delays, lost passports, or even pickpockets, and are able to escalate events for full support from our Operations Safety & Incident Response Team as needed.

Communication at home and abroad

EF maintains consistent and open communication with the Tour Directors, so we can reach any member of the group in numerous ways, as needed. Additionally, our Emergency Service & Support Team is made up of dedicated EF staff who are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to help groups on the road or parents calling in. All travelers are given a wristband with EF's emergency phone number printed on it, as well as a card listing emergency phone numbers (such as local 911 equivalents) and spaces to write the Tour Director's and Group Leader's phone numbers. EF also maintains a contact list for all groups, which can be utilized to communicate important information to each traveler's emergency contact as necessary.

Medical incidents

In cases of injury or illness to any of our travelers, the Tour Director will connect the affected traveler and a designated adult with local medical professionals, which may include arranging immediate emergency medical care. The Group Leader will contact the traveler's parent to ensure they are aware of the situation and to facilitate continued updates. In the case of hospitalization, the Group Leader or a designated adult will accompany any minor at all times. The Tour Director or other local EF staff will also provide additional support as the situation requires.

Should a traveler need to be hospitalized for more than 24 hours, EF will make travel arrangements and cover the cost of a parent/guardian's flight to be with the traveler, if they wish.

Travelers' safety during world events

(e.g., natural disasters, terrorist incidents, political demonstrations, general unrest)

Our Operations Safety & Incident Response Team regularly monitors for incidents that might affect our groups. In such an instance, our first step is to identify any groups in the affected area and initiate communication to confirm their location and safety. From that point forward the Operations Safety & Incident Response Team provides ongoing support and direction to the Tour Director and local EF staff. They will also coordinate with local law enforcement if necessary to remove groups from situations where they may be at risk.

Our teams in the U.S. and internationally work in close partnership to make arrangements to further support travelers as needed. This could include various actions such as changing hotels, rerouting the remainder of the itinerary, rebooking return flights from a different gateway, or arranging alternate forms of transportation. During any incident, our U.S.-based Emergency Service & Support Team facilitates communication with parents, teachers, students, and others to keep them informed about ongoing developments and how we are working to ensure groups' safety.

Protection for districts and travelers:

General Liability Insurance policy

All EF Group Leaders, schools, and districts are automatically insured under our \$50 million General Liability Insurance policy, regardless of whether or not the tour is affiliated with the school. This policy safeguards Group Leaders, schools, and districts for covered claims related to on-tour incidents, including bodily injury or property damage. The policy also provides a legal defense and covers all associated legal fees. Upon request, a certificate of insurance (COI) can be provided that names the Group Leader, school, and/or district as additional insureds on the policy. EF's General Liability Insurance is provided by nationally recognized insurance companies with A.M. Best Ratings of A- or higher. In addition to our General Liability Insurance policy, every traveler is required to accept the conditions found in our Traveler Release & Agreement, including a clause that provides a general release of liability of the Group Leader, school, district, and school board (regardless of whether the trip is school sponsored).

Assumption of risk waivers

Upon request, EF can provide an example of a waiver for assumption of risk to Group Leaders, schools, or districts. This waiver is similar to the types of waivers used by many schools for participation in sports programs, and can be used as an additional document demonstrating that travelers are knowingly assuming all risks associated with the trip. EF can also provide a sample waiver for a non-school sponsored tour. However, regardless of whether travelers sign a waiver, the Group Leader, school, and district are still automatically covered by EF's general liability policy.

Global Travel Protection plan

Designed specifically with EF travelers in mind, all travelers have the option to purchase the Global Travel Protection plan. This plan helps individuals protect themselves against the impacts associated with certain unexpected situations such as flight delay, loss of job by a parent, or death or illness of a family member, and offers medical coverage on tour in case of sickness or an emergency. While this plan is not required by EF, many Group Leaders choose to make this cost-effective protection plan mandatory for their group. This plan is secondary to any other insurance policies a traveler may have and does not cover terrorism as a cancellation reason.

EF's Peace of Mind program

We understand that plans can change due to unforeseen circumstances. EF provides an exclusive Peace of Mind program to account for such situations. This program is automatically included for all travelers and can be enacted at the group level for any reason, including terrorism or other world events. This flexible plan ensures:

- Until 45 days prior to departure, teachers can work with EF to change their group's travel dates, modify their tour plans, find a new tour, or cancel their tour and all travelers will receive a transferable travel voucher
- With 44 days or less before departure, teachers may still choose any of the above options if a formal Travel Warning is issued by the U.S. Department of State for any country on your itinerary

Protecting travelers' investments


All customer payments are protected by a \$1 million consumer protection plan. In the unlikely event of EF bankruptcy, insolvency, or cessation of business, our participation in the United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA) \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program ensures that travelers' investments receive protection.

EF is accredited by five prestigious educational associations:



EF is highly respected in the industry by the following organizations:




	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.


Planning Requirements: Written application must be submitted first to the school Principal, then to the Assistant Superintendent, according to administrative procedures. **This form MUST be submitted to Central Office for approval before final plans or commitments are begun.** All such trips must be approved by the Board of Education. Formal announcement of special trips can be made only after Board approval has been obtained.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Trips (beyond 500 mile radius, overnight, or outside Continental U.S.) – The request must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the departure date and no later than October 15 th . It must contain detailed written information about arrangements, which at a minimum, must specify the following:					
a.	Names of the Darien Public School staff initiating the proposal and responsible for the trip					
	Christina Vázquez Mauricio - Chair of World Languages, Grades 6-12 Ralph Hernández - Teacher of Spanish, Darien High School					
b.	Exact dates, times, destination(s) of the trip, and what instructional time will be impacted, as well as potential conflicts with major school events or standardized testing.					
	Date:	APRIL BREAK 2024 Requested dates: 9 days within April 11-21, 2024 (exact dates TBA per flight availability)	Time:	For the duration of the trip; exact flight departure time TBA	Destination :	Buenos Aires, Colonia del Sacramento (one-day trip; Uruguay), Iguazú Falls ARGENTINA
	Affected school time:		Students may miss 4/11 or 4/12 of instructional time, depending on our departure and/or arrival date. At the time of submitting this form, there are no standardized tests scheduled for these dates.			
c.	A description of the rationale for the trip, with special emphasis on the educational value of the experience.					
	The World Language Department is building global educational experiences into the fabric of the Darien High School experience. We aim for our students to practice the languages they are learning in our classrooms in real-world, authentic contexts and through direct interaction with target cultures. A multi-day tour through Argentina will give students the ability to hone their language skills. They will experience Argentinian and South American culture, and the Spanish language, first-hand, as well as engage in inquiry-based exploration of this unique culture. Since EF is also an accredited school, students will have the opportunity to earn three college credits upon completion of a research project. (See the attached <i>Detailed Itineraries</i> document for a more detailed explanation.)					
d.	An outline of the pre-trip and post-trip activities, which will be conducted to enhance the value of the trip for students. This must also include a description of which students are eligible for the trip and how students will be selected to participate.					
	Pending approval by the Board of Education, we will inform students about our trip and host an informative parent Zoom meeting in late April 2023 to go over the trip itinerary, policies and regulations, EF's Peace of Mind Promise, answer questions, and then open registration. Since the trip is happening in the 2023-2024 school year, pre-trip activities for travelers will begin in the fall of 2023. In the 2023-2024 school year, we will host events for students traveling, which include, but are not limited to, "culture primer" seminars, student meetings to research destinations, and family meetings for students and their families to connect in person before the trip. For this particular trip, students must be enrolled in a Spanish course at Darien High School during the year of registration and the year of travel, and be in good academic standing.					



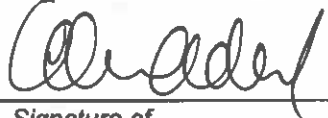
	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

e.	The exact modes and times of travel, as well as the exact housing arrangements. Students and their families will meet at DHS on the date of departure, and students and chaperones will travel together by motorcoach bus to the airport. We will depart by air from the United States (either EWR or JFK) and arrive in Buenos Aires. All travel within the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina and our one-day excursion to Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay will happen by bus. We will fly to Iguazú Falls and spend one night there before flying back to Buenos Aires for our flight home. When we arrive back in the United States (either EWR or JFK), a motorcoach bus will pick us up and bring us back to DHS. Exact hotel accommodations, including room assignments, addresses, contact numbers, and check-in times, are provided three months before departure. At this time, we do know for certain that we will stay in centrally-located 3- or 4-star hotels. Please see the attached document with itineraries for a more detailed description of hotel accommodations.
f.	Detailed daily time schedules of the agenda of activities. The exact daily time schedules will not be available until three months before departure, once the student list is finalized. Please see the attached document for a day-by-day itinerary of cities and cultural landmarks we will visit upon arrival.
g.	Precise overall financial information with a breakdown by categories of expenses. Include any staffing transportation, accommodations or unique modifications for students with disabilities. Included costs: The cost of the ¡Viva Argentina! trip is \$5,429. This price is all-inclusive for all chaperones and students, regardless of ability. This price covers round-trip flights to Buenos Aires, all ground, air, and sea transportation overnight stays in 3- and 4-star hotels, breakfast and dinner daily, our full-time Tour Director, all sightseeing tours led by local expert guides and science researchers, entrances to all locations/landmarks listed on the itinerary, experiential learning programming while on tour, access to EF's "weShare" learning modules that help students complete their research project for academic credit, and EF's comprehensive insurance policy. Non-included costs: Any fees associated with travel documentation such as passports, visas, and COVID testing; lunches; tips; any college credits earned through the completion of the research project; the Global Travel Protection Plan, which is EF's additional travel insurance that can be added before travel. The round-trip cost of the motorcoach bus from DHS to the departure airport will be funded privately by students and their families, as well as through on-campus student fundraising efforts. This will be arranged next school year, once the final trip roster is finalized.
h.	Precise explanation of the sources of funding as it will be apportioned to the students, district funds, grants, fund raising, etc. The cost of the trip is funded by students and their families. They pay EF directly for the full trip costs. We will not use district funds for any part of this trip. Any funds obtained through grants or fundraising will be applied to round-trip transportation to/from DHS/the airport.
i.	Precise explanation of any related cost for the Darien Public Schools, including teacher substitutes, teacher release time, special education supports, follow-up tutoring, special materials, or any other items or services. Darien Public Schools teaching/administrative staff will chaperone the trip; therefore, DPS will fund the cost of providing substitutes if any instructional days are missed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizers must be aware that school budget development occurs a year in advance, so requests for funding must be made during budget development in the fall preceding the school year in which the event is to occur.

	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

<input type="checkbox"/>	The submission of a trip request, does <u>not</u> , in-and-of-itself, constitute any explicit or implied approval.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	No trip is considered authorized until formally approved in writing in accordance with the aforementioned procedures.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The field trip organizer <u>must</u> notify the school nurse of the field trip date, destination, and a list of the students participating in the trip.		
		3/8/23	
Signature of Trip Organizer		Date	Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved
			3/10/23
		Signature of Superintendent/Designee	Date

	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Planning Requirements: Written application must be submitted first to the school Principal, then to the Assistant Superintendent, according to administrative procedures. This form MUST be submitted to Central Office for approval before final plans or commitments are begun. All such trips must be approved by the Board of Education. Formal announcement of special trips can be made only after Board approval has been obtained.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Trips (beyond 500 mile radius, overnight, or outside Continental U.S.) – The request must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the departure date and no later than October 15 th . It must contain detailed written information about arrangements, which at a minimum, must specify the following:					
a. Names of the Darien Public School staff initiating the proposal and responsible for the trip					
Christina Vázquez Mauricio - Chair of World Languages, Grades 6-12 Norma Chajon - Teacher of Spanish, Darien High School					
b. Exact dates, times, destination(s) of the trip, and what instructional time will be impacted, as well as potential conflicts with major school events or standardized testing.					
	APRIL BREAK 2024 Requested dates: 12 days within April 11-24, 2024 (exact dates TBA per flight availability)		For the duration of the trip; exact flight departure time TBA	Destination :	French Riviera, Nimes, Provence, Lyon, Loire Valley, Paris, and Normandy, FRANCE
Affected school time:		Students may miss 4/11 or 4/12 of instructional time, depending on our departure and/or arrival date. At the time of submitting this form, there are no standardized tests scheduled for these dates.			
c. A description of the rationale for the trip, with special emphasis on the educational value of the experience.					
The World Language Department is building global educational experiences into the fabric of the Darien High School experience. We aim for our students to practice the languages they are learning in our classrooms in real-world, authentic contexts and through direct interaction with target cultures. A multi-day tour through France will give students the ability to hone their language skills. They will experience French culture and the French language first-hand, as well as engage in inquiry-based exploration of this unique culture. Since EF is also an accredited school, students will have the opportunity to earn three college credits upon completion of a research project. (See the attached <i>Detailed Itineraries</i> document for a more detailed explanation.)					
d. An outline of the pre-trip and post-trip activities, which will be conducted to enhance the value of the trip for students. This must also include a description of which students are eligible for the trip and how students will be selected to participate.					
Pending approval by the Board of Education, we will inform students about our trip and host an informative parent Zoom meeting in late April 2023 to go over the trip itinerary, policies and regulations, EF's Peace of Mind Promise, answer questions, and then open registration. Since the trip is happening in the 2023-2024 school year, pre-trip activities for travelers will begin in the fall of 2023. In the 2023-2024 school year, we will host events for students traveling, which include, but are not limited to, "culture primer" seminars, student meetings to research destinations, and family meetings for students and their families to connect in person before the trip. For this particular trip, students must be enrolled in a French course at Darien High School during the year of registration and the year of travel, and be in good academic standing.					


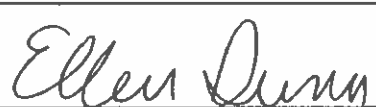
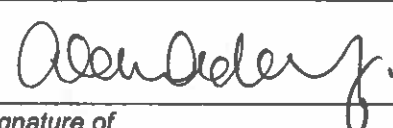
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

<u>e.</u>	<p>The exact modes and times of travel, as well as the exact housing arrangements.</p> <p>Students and their families will meet at DHS on the date of departure, and students and chaperones will travel together by motorcoach bus to the airport. We will depart by air from the United States (either EWR or JFK) and arrive in France to begin making our way north from the south. All travel within France will happen by bus and/or train, depending on final arrangements. When we arrive back in the United States (either EWR or JFK), a motorcoach bus will pick us up and bring us back to DHS.</p> <p>Exact hotel accommodations, including room assignments, addresses, contact numbers, and check-in times, are provided three months before departure. At this time, we do know for certain that we will stay in centrally-located 3- or 4-star hotels. Please see the attached document with itineraries for a more detailed description of hotel accommodations.</p>
<u>f.</u>	<p>Detailed daily time schedules of the agenda of activities.</p> <p>The exact daily time schedules will not be available until three months before departure, once the student list is finalized. Please see the attached document for a day-by-day itinerary of cities and cultural landmarks we will visit upon arrival.</p>
<u>g.</u>	<p>Precise overall financial information with a breakdown by categories of expenses. Include any staffing transportation, accommodations or unique modifications for students with disabilities.</p> <p>Included costs: The cost of the <i>Paris, the Loire, and the French Riviera</i> trip is \$4,659. This price is all-inclusive for all chaperones and students, regardless of ability. This price covers round-trip flights to France, all ground transportation, overnight stays in 3- and 4-star hotels, breakfast and dinner daily, our full-time Tour Director, all sightseeing tours led by local expert guides and science researchers, entrances to all locations/landmarks listed on the itinerary, experiential learning programming while on tour, access to EF's "weShare" learning modules that help students complete their research project for academic credit, and EF's comprehensive insurance policy.</p> <p>Non-included costs: Any fees associated with travel documentation such as passports, visas, and COVID testing; lunches; tips; any college credits earned through the completion of the research project; the Global Travel Protection Plan, which is EF's additional travel insurance that can be added before travel. The round-trip cost of the motorcoach bus from DHS to the departure airport will be funded privately by students and their families, as well as through on-campus student fundraising efforts. This will be arranged next school year, once the final trip roster is finalized.</p>
<u>h.</u>	<p>Precise explanation of the sources of funding as it will be apportioned to the students, district funds, grants, fund raising, etc.</p> <p>The cost of the trip is funded by students and their families. They pay EF directly for the full trip costs. We will not use district funds for any part of this trip. Any funds obtained through grants or fundraising will be applied to round-trip transportation to/from DHS/the airport.</p>
<u>i.</u>	<p>Precise explanation of any related cost for the Darien Public Schools, including teacher substitutes, teacher release time, special education supports, follow-up tutoring, special materials, or any other items or services.</p> <p>Darien Public Schools teaching/administrative staff will chaperone the trip; therefore, DPS will fund the cost of providing substitutes if any instructional days are missed.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Organizers must be aware that school budget development occurs a year in advance, so requests for funding must be made during budget development in the fall preceding the school year in which the event is to occur.</p>

	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

<input type="checkbox"/>	The submission of a trip request, does <u>not</u> , in-and-of-itself, constitute any explicit or implied approval.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	No trip is considered authorized until formally approved in writing in accordance with the aforementioned procedures.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The field trip organizer <u>must</u> notify the school nurse of the field trip date, destination, and a list of the students participating in the trip.		
		3/8/23	
Signature of Trip Organizer		Date	Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved		<input type="checkbox"/> Not approved	
		Signature of Superintendent/Designee	Date

	DARIEN  SPECIAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

Planning Requirements: Written application must be submitted first to the school Principal, then to the Assistant Superintendent, according to administrative procedures. This form MUST be submitted to Central Office for approval before final plans or commitments are begun. All such trips must be approved by the Board of Education. Formal announcement of special trips can be made only after Board approval has been obtained.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Trips (beyond 500 mile radius, overnight, or outside Continental U.S.) – The request must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the departure date and no later than October 15 th . It must contain detailed written information about arrangements, which at a minimum, must specify the following:					
a. Names of the Darien Public School staff initiating the proposal and responsible for the trip					
Christina Vázquez Mauricio - Chair of World Languages, Grades 6-12 Ralph Hernandez - Teacher of Spanish, Darien High School					
b. Exact dates, times, destination(s) of the trip, and what instructional time will be impacted, as well as potential conflicts with major school events or standardized testing.					
	SUMMER 2024 Requested dates: 11 days within July 1-17, 2024 (exact dates TBA per flight availability)		For the duration of the trip; exact flight departure time TBA	Destination :	London and Stonehenge, ENGLAND
Date:		Time:			
Affected school time:		None, as this trip is happening in summer and there are no classes scheduled.			
c. A description of the rationale for the trip, with special emphasis on the educational value of the experience.					
The World Language Department is building global educational experiences into the fabric of the Darien High School experience. Beyond practicing the languages they are learning in our classrooms in real-world, authentic contexts and through direct interaction with target cultures, we aim to build students into global citizens that pursue academic and personal interests in authentic, international settings. Students will arrive in London and travel through the city exploring various cultural landmarks that pioneered the development of STEM as we know it today: The London Eye, Big Ben, Saint Paul's, Stonehenge, Tower of London, Bletchley Park, and The Royal Observatory before exploring Stonehenge. This trip is of particular interest to students in our department that study STEM, as well as students interested in architecture, coding, and history. Since EF is also an accredited school, students will have the opportunity to earn three college credits upon completion of a research project.					
d. An outline of the pre-trip and post-trip activities, which will be conducted to enhance the value of the trip for students. This must also include a description of which students are eligible for the trip and how students will be selected to participate.					
Pending approval by the Board of Education, we will inform students about our trip and host an informative parent Zoom meeting in late April 2023 to go over the trip itinerary, policies and regulations, EF's Peace of Mind Promise, answer questions, and then open registration. Since the trip is happening in the 2023-2024 school year, pre-trip activities for travelers will begin in the fall of 2023. In the 2023-2024 school year, we will host events for students traveling, which include, but are not limited to, "culture primer" seminars, student meetings to research destinations, and family meetings for students and their families to connect in person before the trip. This particular trip is open to any students at Darien High School; they need not study a world language.					

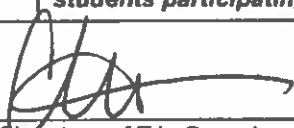


	DARIEN SPECIAL  FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

e.	The exact modes and times of travel, as well as the exact housing arrangements. Students and their families will meet at DHS on the date of departure, and students and chaperones will travel together by motorcoach bus to the airport. We will depart by air from the United States (either EWR or JFK) and arrive in France to begin making our way north from the south. All travel within England will happen by bus and/or train, depending on final arrangements. When we arrive back in the United States (either EWR or JFK), a motorcoach bus will pick us up and bring us back to DHS. Exact hotel accommodations, including room assignments, addresses, contact numbers, and check-in times, are provided three months before departure. At this time, we do know for certain that we will stay in centrally-located 3- or 4-star hotels. Please see the attached document with itineraries for a more detailed description of hotel accommodations.
f.	Detailed daily time schedules of the agenda of activities. The exact daily time schedules will not be available until three months before departure, once the student list is finalized. Please see the attached document for a day-by-day itinerary of cities and cultural landmarks we will visit upon arrival.
g.	Precise overall financial information with a breakdown by categories of expenses. Include any staffing transportation, accommodations or unique modifications for students with disabilities. Included costs: The cost of the <i>STEM Discovery: London</i> trip is \$4,359. This price is all-inclusive for all chaperones and students, regardless of ability. This price covers round-trip flights to England, all ground transportation, overnight stays in 3- and 4-star hotels, breakfast and dinner daily, our full-time Tour Director, all sightseeing tours led by local expert guides and science researchers, entrances to all locations/landmarks listed on the itinerary, experiential learning programming while on tour, access to EF's "weShare" learning modules that help students complete their research project for academic credit, and EF's comprehensive insurance policy. Non-included costs: Any fees associated with travel documentation such as passports, visas, and COVID testing; lunches; tips; any college credits earned through the completion of the research project; the Global Travel Protection Plan, which is EF's additional travel insurance that can be added before travel. The round-trip cost of the motorcoach bus from DHS to the departure airport will be funded privately by students and their families, as well as through on-campus student fundraising efforts. This will be arranged next school year, once the final trip roster is finalized.
h.	Precise explanation of the sources of funding as it will be apportioned to the students, district funds, grants, fund raising, etc. The cost of the trip is funded by students and their families. They pay EF directly for the full trip costs. We will not use district funds for any part of this trip. Any funds obtained through grants or fundraising will be applied to round-trip transportation to/from DHS/the airport.
i.	Precise explanation of any related cost for the Darien Public Schools, including teacher substitutes, teacher release time, special education supports, follow-up tutoring, special materials, or any other items or services. Darien Public Schools teaching/administrative staff will chaperone the trip; however, there are no associated costs as this trip happens outside of the school year.
□	Organizers must be aware that school budget development occurs a year in advance, so requests for funding must be made during budget development in the fall preceding the school year in which the event is to occur.

	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

<input type="checkbox"/>	The submission of a trip request, does <u>not</u> , in-and-of-itself, constitute any explicit or implied approval.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	No trip is considered authorized until formally approved in writing in accordance with the aforementioned procedures.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The field trip organizer <u>must</u> notify the school nurse of the field trip date, destination, and a list of the students participating in the trip.		
 Signature of Trip Organizer		3/8/23 Date	 Signature of Principal
			3/10/23 Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved
		 Signature of Superintendent/Designee	
		3/10/23 Date	

**Darien Public Schools
Darien, Connecticut**

POLICY

Series 6700

Community Instructional Resources

Policy 6710

Field Trips

The Darien Board of Education (*the”Board”) encourages and sanctions student field trips that are of value in helping achieve each student’s educational objectives.

All student field trips shall require prior written approval by the building principal. In addition, all student field trips that are scheduled to last more than one day shall require the prior written approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee and the Board.

All student field trips that require public solicitation of funds shall require Board approval prior to any fundraising by involved students or others on their behalf. In addition, any such fundraising activities must comply with the provisions of the Board Policy concerning fundraising activities (Policy 5620) and any administrative regulations implementing such Board Policy.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop administrative procedures to implement this policy.

All student field trips that require public solicitation of funds shall require Board approval prior to any fundraising by involved students or others on their behalf. The Board will not be responsible for any field trip that is not approved in accordance with the procedures set forth in this policy and any accompanying regulations.

APPROVED: November 10, 2009

REVISED: February 14, 2023

**Darien Public Schools
Darien, Connecticut**

POLICY

Series 6700

Community Instructional Resources

Policy 6710

Administrative Regulations/Procedures

Field Trips

Regional Trips (day trips within a 125 mile radius) must be approved first by the principal, then by the Assistant Superintendent, according to regulations. All school regulations, as set forth in the student handbook, and all Board of Education policies and procedures apply to students on field trips. A minimum of 15 school days in advance, the initiator (teacher or administrator in charge) must provide the Principal with a description of the destination and an explanation of the educational or co-curricular purpose of the trip, as well as the details of the trip that include basic cost, additional costs, mode of transportation, chaperones, substitute coverage required, a list of students, and other pertinent details requested by the Principal. Applicable safety precautions and training must be demonstrated to the Principal's satisfaction. The Principal then forwards the application to the Assistant Superintendent for approval, a minimum of 10 school days prior to the date of the trip.

Extended trips (trips beyond 125 mile radius but less than 500 miles) must be approved by the Principal in consultation with the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Principal must supply the Superintendent, a minimum of 15 school days in advance, with the details requested in the "planning requirements" listed below. In rendering a decision on approval, the Principal and Superintendent shall consider the timing of the trip and the impact on instructional time. Final approval depends upon the trip initiator (teacher or administrator in charge) having demonstrated, in writing, appropriate detailed planning. All rules and planning requirements for regional trips (above) will apply to extended trips, including all school and Board of Education policies, regulations, and rules.

Special Trips (overnight and beyond 500 miles, including trips outside the continental United States). Approval of the concept by the Superintendent is required before exploratory talks can begin. Initiators shall consult their Principal before any serious discussion or planning takes place. It also is essential to conduct pre-planning of the full budget impact, so timing is important, often a year in advance. If the Superintendent gives the Principal permission to explore the potential for a trip, the Principal or initiator (teacher or administrator in charge) may then make the inquiries necessary to organize a trip. A minimum of sixty days in advance and no later than October 15th, the trip initiator must submit a detailed request (as specified in the "planning requirements" below) to the Superintendent for the purpose of obtaining the

recommendation of the Superintendent to go to the Board for approval. All such trips must be approved by the Board of Education.

Formal announcement of special trips can be made only after Board approval has been obtained. All rules and regulations covering regional trips and extended trips (see above) apply to special trips. In addition, the behavioral rules covering participating students are to be communicated, in writing, to any host families involved in the trip.

Planning Requirements: All field trips require a written application for field trip approval that must be submitted to the school Principal then to the Assistant Superintendent, according to administrative procedures. For Regional Trips, the building Principal shall designate the requirements for requests, except as specified under "Regional Trips," above. In the case of Extended Trips and Special Trips (defined above) the request must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the departure date and must contain detailed written information about arrangements, which at a minimum, must specify the following:

- a) Names of the Darien Public School staff initiating the proposal and responsible for the trip.
- b) Exact Dates, and times, destination(s) of the trip, and what instructional time will be impacted, as well as potential conflicts with major school events or standardized testing.
- c) A description of the rationale for the trip, with special emphasis on the educational value of the experience.
- d) An outline of the pre-trip and post-trip activities which will be conducted to enhance the value of the trip for students. This must also include a description of which students are eligible for the trip and how students will be selected to participate, as well as the ratio of students to chaperones.
- e) The exact modes and times of travel, as well as the exact housing arrangements.
- f) Detailed daily time schedules of the agenda of activities.
- g) Precise overall financial information with a break down by categories of expenses.
- h) Precise explanation of the sources of funding as it will be apportioned to the students, district funds, grants, fund raising, etc.
- i) Precise explanation of any related cost for the Darien Public Schools, including teacher substitutes, teacher release time, special education supports, follow-up tutoring, special materials, or any other items or services.
- j) Organizers must be aware that school budget development occurs a year in advance, so requests for funding must be made during budget development in the fall preceding the school year in which the event is to occur.
- k) The submission of a trip request, does not, in-and-of-itself, constitute any explicit or implied approval. No trip is considered authorized until formally approved in writing in accordance with the aforementioned procedures.

Additional Requirements: The following information explains additional specifications or requirements which must be followed for all field trips:

- a) All chaperones (Darien Public Schools' employees and non-employees) including parents, must be approved by the Administration and provided with an orientation to the rules of the Board of Education and school.
- b) Any non-Darien students (or graduates) participating in the trip must be approved by the Administration. Priority for participation in school-sponsored trips will be given to currently enrolled Darien students.
- c) All behavioral rules and regulations (above) as well as trip logistics must be communicated in writing to all participating students and their parents as an integral part of the planning of the trip.
- d) Students are considered to be under the supervision of chaperones or a host family (if applicable) at all times.
- e) A permission form signed by the parent or guardian must be provided for every student participating in a field trip.
- f) Written verification must be provided, signed by the parent or guardian of every student participating in a trip, stating that the parent is willing to abide by the "School Trip Cancellation Policy" of the Darien Public Schools. A sample of the form is an addendum to these administrative procedures.

Non-School-sponsored trips (planned by school personnel or by others for whom school personnel are acting as agents). Trips that are incidentally related to the school because the initiator or leader is an employee of the Board must obtain permission of the Superintendent of Schools to advertise in the schools. Permission to advertise does not bind the school or the Board to the trip or to its organizers. It must be clearly understood and expressly stated in any related material (1) that there is no legal or educational connection between trip sponsors, their representatives, and the Board and its administrative agents, (2) that the Board is not the sponsor and is otherwise not responsible in any way for the trip, and (3) the name of the person and/or organization that is responsible for the trip. These trips shall not occur on school time.

If in doubt about the policy, regulations, or procedural matters, consult the Principal.

APPROVED: November 10, 2009

REVISED: February 14, 2023

DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Darien, Connecticut

TO: All Students Participating in Field Trips
FROM: Darien Public Schools' Administration and Staff
RE: School Trip Cancellation Policy

As we begin the extensive planning for our exciting travel, it is important to understand that the safety of our students and staff is always our primary concern in any decisions that are made regarding the approval of school sanctioned trips.

The Darien Board of Education, Administration and staff reserve the right to cancel or alter _____ any time before or during the trip and are not liable for any deposits or payments that may be lost resulting from such a decision. This cancellation or alteration may be due to any unforeseen events that in our judgment jeopardize the safety and well being of our students and staff.

Please sign and return this form to your teacher. Your signature confirms that you have read the above statement and that you understand (1) that your choice to have your student participate in this field trip is voluntary, (2) that you will bear the financial risk that any such trip may be cancelled by the Darien Public Schools, and (3) that the Darien Public Schools are not responsible for any deposits or payments that may be lost resulting from such a decision. If you have any questions, please contact _____.

Thank you.

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Darien Public Schools

Memorandum

To: Members of the Board of Education, Darien Public Schools; Dr. Alan Addley, Superintendent of Schools
From: Francis Janosco, 6-12 English Department Chair
Re: Literature in England Enrichment Travel Opportunity for DHS Students
Date: March 10, 2023

Dear BOE Members and Dr. Addley:

The DHS English department is no stranger to field trips. Next month, on April 26, our English 10 Honors students will be traveling to the Hudson Theatre in New York City to experience a performance of Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, a play that is reflective of that course's curriculum. This is an exciting opportunity, and it is along the lines of how we typically pursue field trips: taking advantage of our proximity to New York City by seeking out experiences there that elevate the reading, writing, and thinking our students do in our classrooms.

Even so, we have done nothing on the scale of the trips that have been organized and conducted by the World Languages department. Over the past two years, I have been in awe—and extremely envious—of the incredible opportunities that Christina Mauricio and her colleagues have provided to DHS students in the name of enhancing their mastery of studied languages and cultures.

But rather than keeping to the sidelines, continuing to watch with envy as more and more WL international field trips are approved, we have decided to take an “if you can't beat them, join them” stance, seeking to provide our students with an international trip opportunity designed to enrich their study of English literature.

So I ask all of you, members of the Board of Education and Dr. Addley, for your support of a special field trip experience we would love to provide to our students: “Literature in England,” a trip developed by Education First (EF), the same company that has been providing the international field trips promoted by the WL department.

The “Literature in England” trip, which we would schedule for debut in April 2024, includes several destinations associated with writers that are studied by students enrolled in English 10 and in grade-12 AP English Literature and Composition (“AP Lit”). Among the tour highlights are Stratford Upon Avon (Shakespeare's birthplace), the Lake District (region made famous by the Romantic poets Wordsworth and Coleridge), Yorkshire (the Brontë sisters), and London (the Globe Theatre, Westminster Abbey, Keats, Dickens, Woolf, etc.).

In December, we conducted a survey of students currently enrolled in grade-11 AP English Language and Composition (“AP Lang”), as these are the students who, by and large, eventually make up our grade-12 AP Lit course sections. Out of 91 respondents, there were 16 students who described themselves as “very likely” to take advantage of this opportunity, and 23 students describing themselves as “somewhat likely” to do so. The idea was also informally shared with the members of NEHS at one of the group's fall meetings, and most of its 53 members—consisting of students in grades 10, 11, and 12—communicated enthusiastic interest in the opportunity.

Please note that I have collaborated extensively with Christina Mauricio in developing this field trip opportunity, and we both firmly believe that, rather than serving as a competing initiative to her department's proposed trips, both of our departments' respective international trips would build a greater degree of awareness within the school community and benefit everyone involved.

If approved, as you would expect, this trip will be chaperoned by members of the Darien High School faculty. Attached is a travel itinerary, Board of Education Policy 6710: Field Trips, the Field Trip Request Form, and EF's Educational Tours Safety and Security Policy.

Thank you for considering this exciting opportunity for our students.

Francis Janosco

An Enrichment Opportunity for DHS Readers and Writers

Literature *in* England

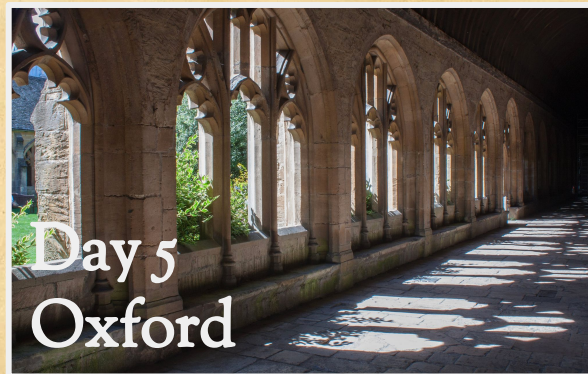
“Travelling”

(William Wordsworth)

This is the spot—how mildly does the sun
Shine in between the fading leaves! the air
In the habitual silence of this wood
Is more than silent: and this bed of heath,
Where shall we find *so sweet* a resting-place?
Come!—let me see thee sink into *a dream*
Of quiet thoughts—protracted till thine eye
Be calm as water when the winds are gone
And no one can tell whither—my sweet friend!
We two have had such *happy* hours together
That my heart melts in me *to think of it.*

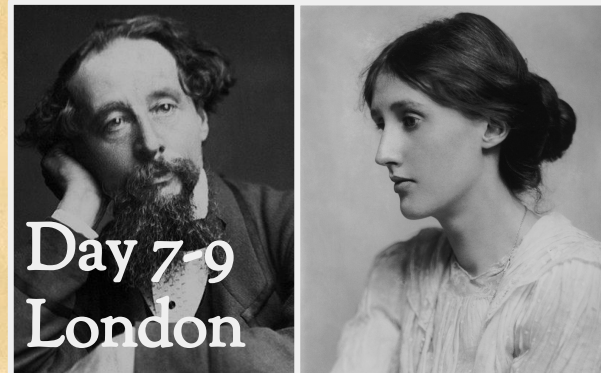
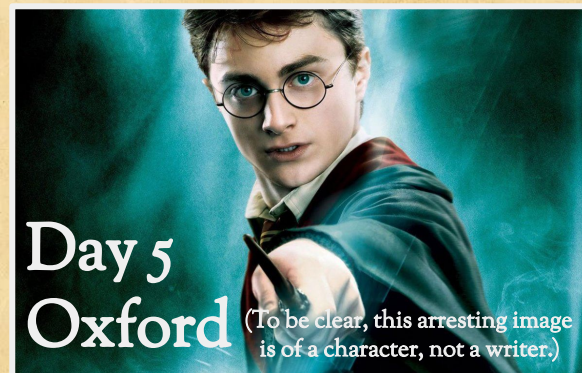
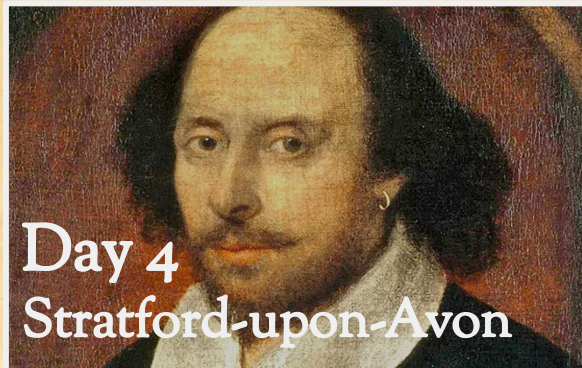
Destinations: Literature in England

(April Break, 2024)



Writers: Literature in England

(April Break, 2024)



Literature in England

Curricular Connections

English 9

- *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare)

English 9 Accelerated

- *Great Expectations* (Dickens)

English 10

- *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare)

English 10 Honors

- *Frankenstein* (Shelley)

British Literature (12)

- *Pride and Prejudice* (Austen)

Women and Fiction (12)

- *A Room of One's Own* (Woolf)

AP English Literature and Composition (12)

- *Hamlet* (Shakespeare)
- *Jane Eyre* (C. Brontë)
- Poems of Wordsworth and Coleridge

Educational Travel Partner = Education First (EF)


“Literature in England” Cost = \$3,649

Included:

- Round-Trip Airfare and On-Trip Transportation
- Hotels with Private Bathrooms
- Breakfasts and Dinners
- Full-Time Tour Director
- 24-Hour Travel Support Team
- Daily Activities, Tours, Entrances to Attractions


Not Included:

- Coach Bus to Airport
- Baggage Fees
- Passport, Visa
- Lunches, Snacks
- Global Travel Protection Plan
- College Credit from Higher-Education Partner, SNHU

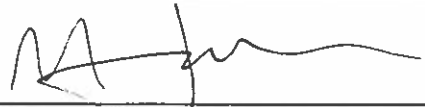

	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

Planning Requirements: Written application must be submitted first to the school Principal, then to the Assistant Superintendent, according to administrative procedures. This form MUST be submitted to Central Office for approval before final plans or commitments are begun. All such trips must be approved by the Board of Education. Formal announcement of special trips can be made only after Board approval has been obtained.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Trips (beyond 500 mile radius, overnight, or outside Continental U.S.) – The request must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the departure date and no later than October 15 th . It must contain detailed written information about arrangements, which at a minimum, must specify the following:					
a. Names of the Darien Public School staff initiating the proposal and responsible for the trip					
Francis Janosco, 6-12 English Department Chair					
b. Exact dates, times, destination(s) of the trip, and what instructional time will be impacted, as well as potential conflicts with major school events or standardized testing.					
	Date:	Thursday, April 11, 2024 through Saturday, April 20, 2024 (these are estimated dates; final confirmation TBA).	Time:	Exact departure/ arrival time TBD	Destination: London: Lake District; Yorkshire; Stratford-Upon-Avon; Birmingham; Bath.
Affected school time:		It is possible that students will miss one or two school days before or after break; however, this will be determined once flight arrangements are made.			
c. A description of the rationale for the trip, with special emphasis on the educational value of the experience.					
This field trip opportunity is open to all students in Grades 10, 11, and 12 that are studying English; however, it will be particularly interesting for those students enrolled in English 10 (Shakespeare), English 10 Honors (Shakespeare, Mary Shelley), and Grade 12 AP English Literature (Woolf, the Brontës, Dickens, Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Coleridge, among others). This experience will afford students in these courses the enrichment that comes with studying the settings in which writers composed their work. "Literature in England" will provide important first-hand background context for many of the writers, settings, and subjects studied in these classes.					
d. An outline of the pre-trip and post-trip activities, which will be conducted to enhance the value of the trip for students. This must also include a description of which students are eligible for the trip and how students will be selected to participate.					
Pre-trip activities will begin in the Spring of 2023 pending BOE approval. Just as the World Language Department organizes its international trips, we will inform parents and students about ours and host a parent Zoom information session in early April 2023, to provide an overview of the trip itinerary, the necessary policies and regulations, and EF's Peace of Mind Promise. Once all parent questions are addressed and answered, we will open the EF portal for trip registration. During the 2023-24 academic year, we will host events for those students who have registered, along with their parents. For this particular trip, students must be enrolled at Darien High School during the year of travel, and they must be in good academic standing. As mentioned above, this field trip opportunity is open to all students in Grades 10, 11, and 12; however, it will be designed for students enrolled in English 10, English 10 Honors, and Grade 12 AP English Literature.					
e. The exact modes and times of travel, as well as the exact housing arrangements.					


	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

	Students and their families will meet at DHS on the date of departure, and students and chaperones will travel together by coach bus to the airport. The group will depart by air from the United States (either EWR or JFK) and arrive in London's Heathrow Airport (LHR). From there, all travel within England will be by coach bus. At the conclusion of the trip, we will depart from LHR, arrive back in the United States (either at EWR or JFK), and be transported by a coach bus back to DHS. Exact hotel accommodations, including room assignments, addresses, contact numbers, and check-in times will be provided by EF three months before departure.		
f.	Detailed daily time schedules of the agenda of activities.		
	The exact daily time schedules will be available three months before departure, once the student list is finalized. Please consult page 3 of the attached <i>Literature in England</i> document for a more detailed description of the agenda.		
g.	Precise overall financial information with a breakdown by categories of expenses. Include any staffing transportation, accommodations or unique modifications for students with disabilities.		
	<p>Included costs: The cost of the "Literature in England" trip is \$3,649. This price is all-inclusive for all chaperones and students. It covers round-trip flights to LHR, all ground transportation within England, ten overnight stays in 3- and 4-star hotels, daily breakfast and dinner meals, a full-time Tour Director, all sightseeing tours led by expert guides, entrances to all locations/landmarks listed on the itinerary, and EF's comprehensive insurance policy.</p> <p>Non-included costs: Fees associated with travel documentation, such as passports, visas, and COVID testing (if needed); lunches; tips; the Global Travel Protection Plan, which is EF's additional travel insurance that can be added before travel. The round-trip cost of the coach bus from DHS to the departure airport will be funded by students and families.</p>		
h.	Precise explanation of the sources of funding as it will be apportioned to the students, district funds, grants, fund raising, etc.		
	All of the funding for this trip will be provided by the families of the student participants, and the funds will be paid directly to EF.		
i.	Precise explanation of any related cost for the Darien Public Schools, including teacher substitutes, teacher release time, special education supports, follow-up tutoring, special materials, or any other items or services.		
	DPS English teachers will serve as chaperones on this field trip. Since the number of chaperones depends upon the number of enrolled students, we won't know exactly how many teachers will need coverage until roughly three months before the trip is scheduled to commence.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizers must be aware that school budget development occurs a year in advance, so requests for funding must be made during budget development in the fall preceding the school year in which the event is to occur.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The submission of a trip request, does <u>not</u> , in-and-of-itself, constitute any explicit or implied approval.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	No trip is considered authorized until formally approved in writing in accordance with the aforementioned procedures.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The field trip organizer <u>must</u> notify the school nurse of the field trip date, destination, and a list of the students participating in the trip.		
		3.9.23	
Signature of Trip Organizer		Date	Date

	DARIEN SPECIAL FORM Trips Beyond 500 Miles, or Outside the U.S. (Board of Education Policy 6710)	 PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIELD TRIP REQUEST	F2
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Note: This is a Type-On form. Click in information cells and type or print and fill in with pen.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved		3/9/23
				Signature of Superintendent/Designee	Date

**Darien Public Schools
Darien, Connecticut**

POLICY

**Series 6700
Community Instructional Resources**

Policy 6710

Field Trips

The Darien Board of Education (*the”Board”) encourages and sanctions student field trips that are of value in helping achieve each student’s educational objectives.

All student field trips shall require prior written approval by the building principal. In addition, all student field trips that are scheduled to last more than one day shall require the prior written approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee and the Board.

All student field trips that require public solicitation of funds shall require Board approval prior to any fundraising by involved students or others on their behalf. In addition, any such fundraising activities must comply with the provisions of the Board Policy concerning fundraising activities (Policy 5620) and any administrative regulations implementing such Board Policy.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop administrative procedures to implement this policy.

All student field trips that require public solicitation of funds shall require Board approval prior to any fundraising by involved students or others on their behalf. The Board will not be responsible for any field trip that is not approved in accordance with the procedures set forth in this policy and any accompanying regulations.

APPROVED: November 10, 2009

REVISED: February 14, 2023

**Darien Public Schools
Darien, Connecticut**

POLICY

Series 6700

Community Instructional Resources

Policy 6710

Administrative Regulations/Procedures

Field Trips

Regional Trips (day trips within a 125 mile radius) must be approved first by the principal, then by the Assistant Superintendent, according to regulations. All school regulations, as set forth in the student handbook, and all Board of Education policies and procedures apply to students on field trips. A minimum of 15 school days in advance, the initiator (teacher or administrator in charge) must provide the Principal with a description of the destination and an explanation of the educational or co-curricular purpose of the trip, as well as the details of the trip that include basic cost, additional costs, mode of transportation, chaperones, substitute coverage required, a list of students, and other pertinent details requested by the Principal. Applicable safety precautions and training must be demonstrated to the Principal's satisfaction. The Principal then forwards the application to the Assistant Superintendent for approval, a minimum of 10 school days prior to the date of the trip.

Extended trips (trips beyond 125 mile radius but less than 500 miles) must be approved by the Principal in consultation with the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Principal must supply the Superintendent, a minimum of 15 school days in advance, with the details requested in the "planning requirements" listed below. In rendering a decision on approval, the Principal and Superintendent shall consider the timing of the trip and the impact on instructional time. Final approval depends upon the trip initiator (teacher or administrator in charge) having demonstrated, in writing, appropriate detailed planning. All rules and planning requirements for regional trips (above) will apply to extended trips, including all school and Board of Education policies, regulations, and rules.

Special Trips (overnight and beyond 500 miles, including trips outside the continental United States). Approval of the concept by the Superintendent is required before exploratory talks can begin. Initiators shall consult their Principal before any serious discussion or planning takes place. It also is essential to conduct pre-planning of the full budget impact, so timing is important, often a year in advance. If the Superintendent gives the Principal permission to explore the potential for a trip, the Principal or initiator (teacher or administrator in charge) may then make the inquiries necessary to organize a trip. A minimum of sixty days in advance and no later than October 15th, the trip initiator must submit a detailed request (as specified in the "planning requirements" below) to the Superintendent for the purpose of obtaining the

recommendation of the Superintendent to go to the Board for approval. All such trips must be approved by the Board of Education.

Formal announcement of special trips can be made only after Board approval has been obtained. All rules and regulations covering regional trips and extended trips (see above) apply to special trips. In addition, the behavioral rules covering participating students are to be communicated, in writing, to any host families involved in the trip.

Planning Requirements: All field trips require a written application for field trip approval that must be submitted to the school Principal then to the Assistant Superintendent, according to administrative procedures. For Regional Trips, the building Principal shall designate the requirements for requests, except as specified under "Regional Trips," above. In the case of Extended Trips and Special Trips (defined above) the request must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the departure date and must contain detailed written information about arrangements, which at a minimum, must specify the following:

- a) Names of the Darien Public School staff initiating the proposal and responsible for the trip.
- b) Exact Dates, and times, destination(s) of the trip, and what instructional time will be impacted, as well as potential conflicts with major school events or standardized testing.
- c) A description of the rationale for the trip, with special emphasis on the educational value of the experience.
- d) An outline of the pre-trip and post-trip activities which will be conducted to enhance the value of the trip for students. This must also include a description of which students are eligible for the trip and how students will be selected to participate, as well as the ratio of students to chaperones.
- e) The exact modes and times of travel, as well as the exact housing arrangements.
- f) Detailed daily time schedules of the agenda of activities.
- g) Precise overall financial information with a break down by categories of expenses.
- h) Precise explanation of the sources of funding as it will be apportioned to the students, district funds, grants, fund raising, etc.
- i) Precise explanation of any related cost for the Darien Public Schools, including teacher substitutes, teacher release time, special education supports, follow-up tutoring, special materials, or any other items or services.
- j) Organizers must be aware that school budget development occurs a year in advance, so requests for funding must be made during budget development in the fall preceding the school year in which the event is to occur.
- k) The submission of a trip request, does not, in-and-of-itself, constitute any explicit or implied approval. No trip is considered authorized until formally approved in writing in accordance with the aforementioned procedures.

Additional Requirements: The following information explains additional specifications or requirements which must be followed for all field trips:

- a) All chaperones (Darien Public Schools' employees and non-employees) including parents, must be approved by the Administration and provided with an orientation to the rules of the Board of Education and school.
- b) Any non-Darien students (or graduates) participating in the trip must be approved by the Administration. Priority for participation in school-sponsored trips will be given to currently enrolled Darien students.
- c) All behavioral rules and regulations (above) as well as trip logistics must be communicated in writing to all participating students and their parents as an integral part of the planning of the trip.
- d) Students are considered to be under the supervision of chaperones or a host family (if applicable) at all times.
- e) A permission form signed by the parent or guardian must be provided for every student participating in a field trip.
- f) Written verification must be provided, signed by the parent or guardian of every student participating in a trip, stating that the parent is willing to abide by the "School Trip Cancellation Policy" of the Darien Public Schools. A sample of the form is an addendum to these administrative procedures.

Non-School-sponsored trips (planned by school personnel or by others for whom school personnel are acting as agents). Trips that are incidentally related to the school because the initiator or leader is an employee of the Board must obtain permission of the Superintendent of Schools to advertise in the schools. Permission to advertise does not bind the school or the Board to the trip or to its organizers. It must be clearly understood and expressly stated in any related material (1) that there is no legal or educational connection between trip sponsors, their representatives, and the Board and its administrative agents, (2) that the Board is not the sponsor and is otherwise not responsible in any way for the trip, and (3) the name of the person and/or organization that is responsible for the trip. These trips shall not occur on school time.

If in doubt about the policy, regulations, or procedural matters, consult the Principal.

APPROVED: November 10, 2009

REVISED: February 14, 2023

DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Darien, Connecticut

TO: All Students Participating in Field Trips
FROM: Darien Public Schools' Administration and Staff
RE: School Trip Cancellation Policy

As we begin the extensive planning for our exciting travel, it is important to understand that the safety of our students and staff is always our primary concern in any decisions that are made regarding the approval of school sanctioned trips.

The Darien Board of Education, Administration and staff reserve the right to cancel or alter _____ any time before or during the trip and are not liable for any deposits or payments that may be lost resulting from such a decision. This cancellation or alteration may be due to any unforeseen events that in our judgment jeopardize the safety and well being of our students and staff.

Please sign and return this form to your teacher. Your signature confirms that you have read the above statement and that you understand (1) that your choice to have your student participate in this field trip is voluntary, (2) that you will bear the financial risk that any such trip may be cancelled by the Darien Public Schools, and (3) that the Darien Public Schools are not responsible for any deposits or payments that may be lost resulting from such a decision. If you have any questions, please contact _____.

Thank you.

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____



EDUCATIONAL
TOURS

Watch videos, read
reviews, and enroll on your
teacher's Tour Website

eftours.com/

This is also your tour number

LITERATURE IN ENGLAND

10 days | England

Visit the homes and hometowns that inspired some of the English language's most influential works. Step inside William Wordsworth's former residence at Rydal Mount and explore the quaint cobblestone streets of Haworth, where the Brontë sisters penned *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*. Visit Shakespeare's Birthplace and enjoy a theater performance and workshop.

EVERYTHING YOU GET:



Full-time Tour Director



Sightseeing: 6 sightseeing tours led by expert, licensed local guides; 2 sightseeing tours led by your Tour Director



Entrances: Rydal Mount; Brontë Museum; Clifford's Tower; York Minster; Shakespeare's Birthplace; Anne Hathaway's Cottage; Roman Baths; New College; Globe Theatre



Experiential learning: Theater workshop



weShare: Our personalized learning experience engages students before, during, and after tour, with the option to create a final, reflective project for academic credit.



All of the details are covered: Round-trip flights on major carriers; Comfortable motorcoach; 8 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; European breakfast and dinner daily



Shakespeare's Birthplace



Anyone can see the world.

YOU'RE GOING TO EXPERIENCE IT.

As you can see, your EF tour includes visits to the places you've learned about in school. That's a given. But it's so much more than that. Immersing yourself in new cultures—surrounded by the people, the language, the food, the way of life—creates inspirational moments that can't be listed in an itinerary. They can only be experienced.

And the experience begins long before you get your passport stamped and meet your **Tour Director** in your arrival city. It begins the moment you decide to go. Whether it's connecting with other travelers on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, or delving deeper into your destinations with our personalized learning experience, **weShare**, the excitement will hit you long before you pack your suitcase.

When your group arrives abroad, everything is taken care of so you can relax and enjoy the experience. Your full-time Tour Director is with your group around the clock, handling local transportation, hotels, and meals while also providing their own insight into the local history and culture. **Expert local guides** will lead your group on sightseeing tours, providing detailed views on history, art, architecture, or anything you may have a question about.

When your journey is over and you're unpacking your suitcase at home, you'll realize the benefits of your life-changing experience do not end. They have just begun.

@EFtours I attribute my college semester abroad to the love for travel I discovered on an EF Tour in high school #traveltuesday

— MELISSA, TRAVELER



Via Twitter



CHECK OUT WHAT A TOUR IS ALL ABOUT

Watch the videos at
eftours.com/

Your teacher's Tour Website

What you'll experience on your tour

Day 1: Fly overnight to England

Day 2: Manchester | Lake District

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport.
- Take a walking tour of Manchester, northern England's cultural hub.
- Travel to the Lake District, Britain's largest national park and home to many literary greats.

Day 3: Lake District

- Take a tour of the Lake District.
- Visit Rydal Mount, William Wordsworth's former residence. Step inside Wordsworth's ivy-covered house and see the hundreds of daffodils the poet planted as a memorial site for his daughter.

Day 4: Yorkshire

- Take a tour of Haworth.
- Visit the Brontë Museum, home of one of English literature's most talented families.
- Continue to Yorkshire.
- Take an expert-led tour of York.
- Visit York Minster.
- Visit Clifford's Tower.

Day 5: Yorkshire | Stratford-upon-Avon | Birmingham region

- Travel to Stratford-upon-Avon and step back into the Elizabethan age. Here, you'll tour the half-timbered house where William Shakespeare was born. The playwright had an unmistakable influence on his hometown. Today, Stratford is home to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and a premier destination for theater lovers worldwide. You'll also visit Anne Hathaway's Cottage, a picturesque farmhouse where the Bard's wife spent her childhood.
- Take an expertly guided tour of Stratford-upon-Avon.
- Visit Shakespeare's Birthplace.
- Visit the gardens at Anne Hathaway's Cottage.

Day 6: Birmingham region | Oxford | Bath region

- Travel to Oxford.
- Take a walking tour of Oxford.
- Visit New College.
- Travel to the Bath region.

Day 7: Bath region | London

- Take an expert-led tour of Bath: Georgian squares.
- Visit the Roman Baths.
- Travel to London, a city of 8 million people that has become one of the world's great melting pots while maintaining a distinct character that's all its own.

Day 8: London

- Explore England's capital today. From the London Bridge to the Houses of Parliament, Great Britain's royal tradition and rich history greet you at every turn. Admire architectural marvels like the Baroque domes and spires of St. Paul's Cathedral, the 17th-century church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Check out the lively five-way intersection at Piccadilly Circus as well as Hyde Park's urban greenery. You may even get a chance to witness the ceremonial Changing of the Guard. And don't forget to snap a picture of Big Ben from the banks of the River Thames.
- Take an expertly guided tour of London: Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament; Piccadilly Circus; St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace (if scheduled).
- Visit the Globe Theatre.
- Attend an evening theater performance.

Day 9: London

- Participate in a theater workshop.
- Full day to see more of London or [visit Windsor Castle](#).
- Enjoy an authentic fish and chips dinner.

Day 10: Depart for home



and finally, the London Tower Bridge. <3 #eftours

– ASHLIE, TRAVELER



Via Instagram

The week I spent in England was one of the best in my life. I saw things I never imagined I would or could. The Tower of London is mind-boggling because you get to walk the ground on which kings and queens have walked on. Bath is a beautiful city in which Jane Austen once lived. Plus, there are the iconic spots that everyone want to see like Big Ben, the London Eye, and Buckingham Palace.

– YESELY, TRAVELER



Via Facebook

TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY, OR EXPLORE

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

— The easiest ways to —

ENROLL TODAY



Enroll on our website
eftours.com/enroll



Enroll by phone
800-665-5364



Enroll by mail
EF Educational Tours
Two Education Circle
Cambridge, MA 02141

My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.

—CHARLOTTE, PARENT OF TRAVELER

“ Tour review

THE WORLD LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

For over 50 years EF has been working toward one global mission: *Opening the World Through Education*. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence. What's more:

- **We always offer the lowest prices** so more students can travel.
- **We're fully accredited, just like your school**, so you can earn credit while on tour.
- **All of our educational tours feature experiential learning activities** and visits to the best sites.
- **We're completely committed to your safety.** We have more than 600 schools and offices in over 50 countries around the world, so local EF staff members can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.
- **Your full-time Tour Director is with your group** every step of the way on tour, providing insight about your destinations as well as great local tips.



Education First



/ EDUCATIONAL
TOURS

International Travel Program Proposal

Darien High School / Francis Janosco



Literature in England - Spring 2024

eftours.com/APE

Your partner in travel-based learning

EF Education First is the world leader in international education. For over 55 years, we've partnered with educators around the world to help more than 15 million students gain new perspectives and build skills for the future through experiential learning.

Our mission is to empower educators to do their best work. At EF Educational Tours, we're working to define the modern educational tour experience. Our itineraries are more than places to go and things to see. We build programs that challenge assumptions, spark connections, and inspire curiosity in young students. Students will expand their knowledge of the world around them, discover more about themselves, grow more confident and independent, and understand new people, places, and cultures.

We take care of every last detail of the tour experience—transportation and lodging, meal reservations and menus, museum tickets and local tour guides, and much more. That also includes behind-the-scenes elements, like safety checks at hotels and background checks on adult travelers. With all that taken care of, educators and students can focus on the bigger picture.

You'll find all the details and more on the next few pages.

What's contained in this document

Pg. 2	Safety
Pg. 4	Liability protection
Pg. 6	Affordability
Pg. 7	Educational value
Pg. 8	Itinerary specifics
Pg. 8	Cost and payment options
Pg. 9	Sample hotels
Pg. 10	Sample meals
Pg. 11	Next steps

This proposal is property of EF Education First and the educator/school for which it was intended. Distributing, copying, and/or sharing it are prohibited. The proposal, including pricing, is valid for the educator, tour, and date(s) specifically mentioned herein. For additions, subtractions, or modifications, please contact your EF Tour Consultant.

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Safety

Your students' safety is our number one priority. We would never send a traveler to a location we believe to be unsafe—and with our extensive global presence, our best-in-the-industry experience, and our close working relationships with U.S. and international authorities, that's a statement we can back up with real insight. Whether it's a worldwide pandemic or a sprained ankle, a missed flight or confusing medical paperwork, we make sure every situation is taken care of.

***For specific information on EF's response to COVID-19, visit [eftours.com/covid](https://www.eftours.com/covid)**

Worldwide presence

EF's global presence is truly unmatched. We have staff on the ground 365 days a year in over 50 countries. And we don't just work in those countries—we call them home. EF team members live in nearly every one of our tour destinations, meaning we have the local knowledge to help keep our groups safe. That presence allows us to be there to support you on the ground wherever and whenever you need us.

24/7 emergency support

In the event that anything on tour goes wrong, EF staff is always available to help. Your Tour Director is your group's constant companion and first point of contact in an emergency. Additionally, our fully trained support teams are on hand 24/7 to walk teachers through any issues and provide the resources necessary to get things back on track. Our Safety and Incident Response Team—comprised of industry experts, healthcare experts, and even former FBI personnel—is ready to spring into action 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. And when they aren't directly helping EF travelers, they're actively innovating on and shaping the new worldwide standards for cleanliness and safety.

Your team

This group is fully committed to your school's trip and the safety of every traveler.

Operations Safety & Incident Response

Team – This team is strategically based in our Boston, Panama, Tokyo, and Zurich offices to accommodate for all time zones. Available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, they are trained to react quickly if travelers need help. The team uses a combination of extensive training, simulations, incident response planning, and previous experience to manage emergencies. As needed, they can facilitate additional support for groups on tour, solve operational issues, arrange assistance from outside specialists, and liaise with local and international authorities.

Emergency Services & Support Team

– Our support team is available 24/7 to help resolve any issue, from a missed flight to a lost passport to more serious on-tour incidents. They also facilitate communication between travelers and families in the event of an emergency at home. The team is made up of highly trained and dedicated EF staff in our Boston and Denver offices who are equipped to solve problems and answer questions that may come up, even outside of regular business hours.

Tour Director – Assigned exclusively to your tour for the length of the stay at your destination, your Tour Director meets your group at the airport and travels with you until your departure. All Tour Directors undergo a background check as permissible by local law every two years and are required to participate in ongoing EF safety trainings. They're the first point of contact in an emergency and also communicate information to help travelers stay safe in a foreign destination. Tour Directors assist Group Leaders with hotel check-ins, coordinate meals, facilitate excursions with local guides, and much more. They're also culturally connected and expertly trained to support impactful learning experiences.

Tour Consultant – This itinerary expert is devoted to the growth of your students. They are your school's partner, working with you on everything from finding the perfect tour and enrolling students to offering fundraising advice and creating long-term travel programs for your school community. They work directly alongside the Group Leader (a.k.a. local teacher), right up until the moment of departure to make sure everything goes smoothly.

Traveler Support – Our team of support specialists are readily available to walk families through insurance inquiries, payment plans, food allergy issues, and any other topics that arise.

Chaperones – For every six travelers who enroll on your school's tour, your group is eligible to bring along a chaperone for free (the first spot goes to the Group Leader). This allows for a 6:1 ratio of students to chaperones, who assist Group Leaders with supervision of students to help keep them safe.

Protection for travelers, schools, and districts

We understand that unpredictable things can happen, either on tour or before departure. We offer a variety of protections, programs, and policies to make sure that, no matter what happens, travelers, schools, and districts are covered. We're doing everything we can to make planning for the future as flexible as possible.

General liability insurance

All Group Leaders, schools, and districts who travel with EF are automatically added as additional insureds under our **\$50 million General Liability Policy**, regardless of whether or not the tour is affiliated with the school. EF's liability coverage is primary and non-contributory for covered third-party claims. The policy helps safeguard Group Leaders and their schools for covered third-party claims related to bodily injury or property damage, which includes providing a legal defense and covering legal costs for such claims. In addition, all travelers are required to sign EF's Release and Agreement, which includes a release of liability of their Group Leader, school, and school board.

Flexibility to change tours

The world is always changing. And while our belief in the positive impact of travel is unwavering, it can feel hard to predict what life, here in the U.S. and abroad, will look like several months, a year, or even two years from now. When you decide to travel with EF, we want you to feel secure in that decision. That's why these benefits are built into every EF program.

Peace of Mind

Provided to all groups

We understand that plans can change due to unforeseen circumstances. EF provides this exclusive program to account for such situations. It provides groups with flexibility to change the dates and destination of their tours in uncertain times. This program accounts for such circumstances and can be enacted up to 45 days prior to departure at the group level for any reason, including terrorism or other world events.

COVID Care Promise

Provided to all groups

If your child is diagnosed with COVID-19 while on tour, we will coordinate and facilitate support services and logistics including translation services, connections with local health care providers, communication with family, and flights home at no additional cost.

Protection for individual travelers

Travelers can help protect their investment and themselves from certain unexpected events and expenses while on tour with the Global Travel Protection Plan and Global Travel Protection Plan Plus.

Global Travel Protection Plan

Available to all travelers

Designed specifically with EF travelers in mind, this plan provides both pre-departure and post-departure benefits, including medical expense coverage that may apply on tour and tour cancellation for specified reasons.

Global Travel Protection Plan Plus

Available to all travelers

To further protect your investment from the unexpected, this plan provides all of the benefits included in the Global Travel Protection Plan as well as expanded cancellation protection.

Background checks for adult travelers

EF requires all adults (20 years and older) to pass a criminal background check before traveling on our student tours. This provides a safer tour experience for all travelers and aligns with the process and expectations of many school districts for adults who volunteer in schools or chaperone school activities. The secure process, provided by a leading professional provider, only identifies those individuals who could present a risk to student travelers while on tour.

Affordability

We believe every student should have the opportunity to travel. That's why we're dedicated to providing the lowest prices possible and giving travelers multiple resources for managing payments.

Tour Consultants work closely with teachers to build a tour that's exactly right for your students. Through discussions with your teacher, they take into account learning objectives, cost, timing considerations, and any other factors to craft a tour that's accessible to as many students as possible.

Resources for managing cost and payments

Automatic Payment Plan – Our recommended payment plan offers the ability to break the tour fee into smaller installments. With most tours planned well in advance, travelers can enroll for only \$95, then pay over a long period of time—often up to 18 months or two years—with final payment due 30 days before departure. Families make payments directly to EF, with no payments going through the school.

Donation pages – Each student has access to their own unique and customizable donation page. The easy-to-share page makes it simple for friends and family to contribute a little something that is automatically applied to the balance of the tour, with no fees whatsoever.

Global Citizen Scholarship Fund – EF Educational Tours provides \$100,000 worth of scholarships to students across the country every year. Any student is able to apply for the Global Citizen Scholarship, which is awarded on both a merit and need basis.

Risk-free enrollment period - New travelers who enroll by their Early Enrollment Discount Deadline can cancel for any reason up to 14 days after enrollment for a full refund of 100% of the money paid to EF. Travelers must pay in full or enroll in our Automatic Payment Plan at the time of program enrollment and must remain either paid in full or enrolled in our Automatic Payment Plan and in good financial standing at the time of cancellation to remain eligible. To be eligible, the traveler must enroll on a tour at least 110 days prior to the scheduled departure date.

Educational value

Our tours help prepare students for the future by teaching them more about the world, themselves, and the impact they can have on the world. Combining the power of experiential learning with the thrill of global travel, our tours help students:

- **Expand their knowledge of the world around them**
- **Grow more confident and independent**
- **Understand new people, places, and cultures**
- **Discover more about themselves**

To learn more about EF's educational philosophy, visit
<https://www.eftours.com/our-story/educational-approach>

EF is an accredited institution

We echo your commitment to education. Our travel-based learning approach is designed to blend classroom and experiential learning. This allows us to meet the same rigorous standards as schools like yours, ensuring students gain valuable experiences that transform the way they look at the world.



Earning credit for new experiences

EF makes it easy for students to turn their tour experience into high school credit, college credit, or to get a head start on their college essays—all while making their travel experience even more engaging.

- Students in grades 6 - 12 can earn .5 elective high school credit by successfully completing the final project as part of EF's Personalized Learning Guide. Tuition is free.
- Students in grades 9 - 12 can earn 3.0 undergraduate credits, along with the confidence that comes with taking a college course, by completing a series of assignments and a final research project with our partner, Southern New Hampshire University—all for just \$215.
- Educators traveling on student tours may earn up to 45 free hours toward relicensure OR 3 or 6 graduate level credits (\$285/\$450) through Southern New Hampshire University.

Itinerary specifics

For more robust details, the complete itinerary is attached to this document. It includes specific locations, each day's activities, travel plans, and more.

Price of the proposed tour

The tour program price covers a wide range of services that ensure students have an incredible experience. It includes all the planning and preparation that leads up to departure, travel and accommodations, plus logistical support and details once the group reaches their destination.

Full proposed travel date range: April 11 - April 24

Requested travel dates: April 13-April 22

Price Details

Literature in England

Program Price ¹	\$3,649
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Includes:

- Round-trip airfare and on tour transportation
- Hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast and dinner (see your itinerary for meal details)
- Full-time Tour Director
- Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions

Global Travel Protection	\$190
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EF's Peace of Mind Program *	Free
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Total for Students (under 20)	\$3,839
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13 monthly payments	\$288/mo
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Sample hotels

Every hotel we work with must meet our high standards for safety, quality, and cleanliness. Hotels are vetted by our team to make sure they meet our requirements and are subsequently inspected regularly to ensure they continue to satisfy those parameters. Please note that hotels abroad may have different amenities than travelers are accustomed to in the United States.

Here are some examples of hotels students might stay in on tour:

Best Western London Ariel Hotel | London

<https://www.bestwestern.co.uk/hotels/best-western-london-heathrow-ariel-hotel-84316>

Located next to London's Heathrow airport, but with easy access to central London via public transportation, the Best Western London Ariel offers a quiet stay away from the hustle and bustle of the big city. Guests may relax in their modern-style bedrooms while taking advantage of complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel. Additional amenities include elevator service to all floors and a full breakfast buffet.

Holiday Inn Express London Heathrow Terminal 4 | London

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/gb/en/hounslow/lonrs/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps- -EX- -GB- -LONRS

Only a short 30-min ride away from the medieval Windsor castle, the Holiday Inn Express is contemporary in design and boasts all the comforts of a modern hotel. A hot breakfast buffet is available daily in the dining area and guests can embrace British tea culture right from their bedrooms with their own tea and coffee making facilities. Additional room amenities include air conditioning, Wi-Fi, a television, and hair dryer.

Ibis London Sutton Point | London

https://all.accor.com/hotel/B5J1/index.en.shtml?y_source=1_MjA4NDc3ODgtNzE1LWxvY2F0aW9uLndIYnNpdGU%3D#section-description

A short 12 miles from central London, the Ibis London Sutton Point lies in the heart of Sutton, a borough of London characterized by its village-like atmosphere. This hotel's air-conditioned bedrooms are comfortably furnished and feature an industrial-inspired design. Guests will enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel and a choice of hot or cold breakfast options daily.

Sample meals

Meals are selected to establish a more immersive cultural experience and give students an idea of how locals eat. Below are some examples of local dishes travelers may try at the destination

that your teacher has chosen, but please note that meals can vary from tour to tour.

On tour, breakfast generally is simple and will be at the hotel; it could be plated or buffet-style.

Lunch typically is your chance to make culinary discoveries of your own. **Dinners** will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties. All meals will be a mix of familiar dishes and local specialties all served from a pre-set group menu.



The United Kingdom: Sample Meals

Fish and chips, ice cream
Chicken and hummus, flan
Naan bread, chicken curry

How I can help with next steps

My name is Rachel Wasserman and I am Darien High School's dedicated Tour Consultant. That means I'll be working with Mr. Francis Janosco every step of the way to make sure everything is perfectly planned.

Please note the price quoted above is valid through March 31, 2023.

The next step in this process is to host a parent information meeting for families to enroll their travelers. Hosting a meeting this month will allow families ample opportunities to work this trip into their budgets and take advantage of lower monthly payment plans.

I hope this overview has given you the information you need to feel confident in EF as an educational travel provider. Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. EF is excited to partner with your school to bring this life-changing experiential learning opportunity to your students.

Sincerely,
Rachel Wasserman
Tour Consultant
475-256-0843
rachel.wasserman@ef.com

“I am now more confident than ever in the safety and experiences of my students after working with EF on this trip. As a leader, I am committed to ensuring a global mindset throughout my district and student/teacher travel.”

Angela M., Administrator, Brunswick, ME

“I advocate for travel because the world is vast and diverse. If we want to truly understand our neighbors in other states or countries, we must reach out and meet them where they live. Travel provides a glimpse into another world that our students may have Googled or watched on a device, but living it with the smells, food, smiles, and various challenges teaches flexibility, tolerance, understanding, and empathy.”

- Chuck C., Group Leader, Central, SC

From a single tour to a whole program

A single tour can open up endless possibilities for a small group of students. Our goal at EF is to bring that experience to as many students as possible, including the broadest collection of students at your school. By progressing from a single tour to a consistent travel program, you'll not only build a culture of exploration, but you'll provide the opportunity of travel to even more students. We can work directly with you and your staff to establish a framework for your travel program that's tailored specifically to your school's needs and goals.

DARIEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Richard Rudl

Director of Finance and Operations

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TEL: 203-656-7405 FX: 203-656-3502

To: Dr. Alan Addley, Superintendent of Schools

From: Richard Rudl, Director of Finance and Operations

Subject: YMCA Facilities Use Agreement

Date: March 9, 2023

On September 21, 2021, the district executed a Facilities Use Agreement with the Darien YMCA, which for the first time spelled out the shared facilities between both organizations. The agreement called for:

- YMCA to make available to the BOE for use by the Darien High School swim teams the indoor pool facility and locker rooms for 500 pool hours for both before school, after school and Sundays.
- YMCA to make available to the BOE for use of the gymnastics space for the Darien High School gymnastic team for a total of 100 hours.
- The BOE provided the YMCA with the in-town rate per participant for its summer camp programs.
- The BOE makes available to the YMCA 2,920 hours of gym space at no fee for the YMCA basketball program.
- The YMCA agrees to reimburse the BOE for any custodial overtime costs associated with the basketball program.

Under this agreement, the BOE saved over \$76,000 over the last two years, as we no longer had to subsidize the cost of custodial overtime on the weekends for the basketball program or pay for the swimming rental in Greenwich given our ability now to utilize the YMCA on Sundays. The YMCA was able to successfully run their program this year at approximately 2,721 hours well below the 2,920-hour cap.

This is now the second year of the agreement, which calls for a renewal no later than April 30, 2023. The agreement continues to work out very well for both sides and we strongly recommend extending the agreement for another year. We have conferred with Jennifer Gardner, the YMCA Darien CEO who has agreed that the contract has been beneficial for both sides and would like to see it extended.