

From: Mark Pendarvis
To: The Cape Elizabeth School Board
Date: October 13, 2011
Subject: Request for Approval – Extended Field Trip (Costa Rica Exchange Program)

Mark Pendarvis, High school Spanish teacher, has requested approval of a full student exchange with a school in Costa Rica for the 2011-2012 school year. The flight portion of the trip and travel insurance would be coordinated through AAA Travel. The remainder of the trip would be planned by Mr. Pendarvis and Mr. Jose Luis Corrales, who holds a tourist guide license in Costa Rica and is the principal of the Green Valley Educational Center in Guapiles, Costa Rica. The exchange proposed would be a real exchange, in that the students from our partner school would visit our community and school and be hosted by the families of students who will also travel to Costa Rica and be hosted by the families of the partner school. Students from this school have already participated in an exchange in 2006 and 2008, and Mr. Pendarvis is very familiar with the country, community, families, and the school personnel.

The details of the trip are as follows:

DATES - Tentative

Cape Elizabeth students in Costa Rica: Thurs, February 16, 2012 to Thurs. March 1, 2012
Costa Rican students here: March 28-29 to April 11-12

COSTS

We do not have final figures, but it appears to be about \$1600-1800 per student for this exchange. This trip is not a mandatory piece of the curriculum of any course.

TRANSPORTATION

Air transportation will be arranged for the participants. Ground transport from CE to Boston will also have to be arranged unless .

ACCOMMODATIONS

The host families will house students. These will be the same students who will be staying with our families here in Cape Elizabeth. The host families will also help plan some events while here

PARTICIPANTS

To be determined. It will be a voluntary trip open to students who are in Spanish level 4 or higher. The maximum group size would be 14 students. Mr. Pendarvis and his wife will be the chaperones on the way down.

INSURANCE

The participants will be covered by health, accident, liability and repatriation insurance policies through STA Travel or a comparable agency approved by AAA Travel. Insurance coverage is included in the comprehensive program cost.

FURTHER DETAILS

Below is an itemized itinerary for the Cape Elizabeth students:

Date		
2/16	Leave Portland / Boston - Arrive Guapiles	Th
2/17	Arrival Party With all students and families	F
2/18	Weekend together with families	S
2/19	Weekend together with families	S
2/20	School and after school events	M
2/21	Tour of Earth University - Certificate rewarded (Cape kids)	Tu
2/22	School and after school events	W
2/23	School and after school events	Th
2/24	Trip to Tortuguero National Reserve with all students	F
2/25	Trip to Tortuguero National Reserve with all students	S
2/26	Trip to Tortuguero National Reserve with all students	S
2/27	School and after school events	M
2/28	Tour of una granja (Cape kids)	Tu
2/29	Time with families - Goodbye party	W
3/1	Return	Th