



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Clayton County Public Schools • Jonesboro, Georgia

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## VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Clayton County Public Schools is to prepare ALL graduates to have the skills to pursue and accomplish college, post-secondary training, and/or career opportunities in order to live and compete successfully in a global society.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Clayton County Public Schools is to empower scholars to achieve academic, professional, and personal goals by providing equitable access and experiences that build skills in literacy, creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration.

**Title:** CCPS Travels

**Submitted by:** Anna Cox, World Languages Coordinator & Regina Wallace, Coordinator Department of Social Studies

**Meeting Date:** Board Meeting, July 25, 2022

**Strategic Goal(s):** *Strategic Goal 6: Education In and Through the Arts*

*To establish a creative district where scholars and the community have access to the arts and cultural experiences and resources that support collaborative and individual creative pursuits.*

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## Purpose

Clayton County Public Schools Strategic Goal #6 is *to establish a creative district where scholars and the community have access to the arts and cultural experiences and resources that support collaborative and individual creative pursuits*. The CCPS Travels initiative aligns directly with this goal in that it ensures that students have a variety of opportunities for educational experiences that promotes the knowledge and skills associated with being global citizens prepared to flourish in a global society. The purpose of this executive summary is to request approval for international and domestic travel for the 2023 school year.

## Overview

### Partnership

EF (Education First) Tours, a travel company with more than 30 years of experience designs customized tours to help educators teach, and so students learn more—about tolerance, other perspectives, and themselves. The company’s roots are in language learning and cultural exchange. By focusing on reflection and investigating a topic that inspires them, students also have the opportunity to earn high school as part of their EF tours.

[Click here to learn more about EF Tours](#)

### Communication

The partnership with EF Tours began in February with an outcome of a March 24th meeting for parents/ guardians of rising 6th through 12th graders, our target audience. The initial interest meeting had more than 400+ stakeholders present. During the meeting information around both the domestic and international cultural/ educational experiences was shared along with the following logistical information:

- Safety Procedures and Guidelines
- Potential fundraising options for families traveling
- Processes for room assignments
- Overview of chaperone responsibilities
- Itinerary and Sites
- Cost and what is included with that cost
- Travel contingency

Following the meeting, parents/ guardians continued to be supported with completing the registration process and next steps such as applying for passports for international travelers. Families registered in April and May for both the domestic and international trips. Pending approval, an additional correspondence will be sent in August to ensure that stakeholders new to CCPS will have the opportunity to participate.

### Travel Logistics

Domestic: The requested domestic trip is to Washington D.C. and New York. The requested travel dates are April 3-7, 2023. Currently there are 34 CCPS stakeholders that have shown interest in traveling. The total price is \$2164 for students and \$2499 for adults. The chaperone ratio is 1 adult for every 10 attending students.

International: The requested international trip is to Spain (Prado, Alhambra, and many other sites in Madrid, Cordoba and Seville). The requested travel dates are June 7-14, 2023. The total price

is \$3525 for students and \$3925 for adults. The chaperone ratio is 1 adult for every 6 attending students.

### Chaperones

Chaperones were selected based on educational experience and background as well as experience with student travel. Chaperones travel at no cost. All chaperones will be provided with training, orientation, and professional development in preparation for travel. Chaperones not selected for these trips have been placed in a pool for upcoming opportunities to ensure that we continue to provide this opportunity to interested educators.

### Fiscal Impact

All travelers with the exception of chaperones are expected to fund their own travel experience. Pending approval, a scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded to students participating in the international travel opportunity to Spain and \$500 awarded to students traveling domestically to Washington, D.C. and New York City. The stipend is scheduled to be provided early 2023, pending trip approval. Students were asked to submit educational artifacts as a part of the scholarship process in preparation for the trip (not required to receive scholarship).

### Related Board Policy/Regulation: Regulation IFCB-R(1): Field Trips and Excursions

Requests for international field trips must receive special approval from the Clayton County Board of Education. Appropriate records of field trips by schools will be kept so that the number and nature of field trips can be monitored by the Superintendent and reported to the Board of Education as requested. International field trip request should be made at least (6) six months in advance of the anticipated travel date(s).

**It is recommended that the Board of Education approves the request for select students to travel to Washington D.C., New York, and Spain during the specified travel dates.**