



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

GRETCHAM WHITMER
GOVERNOR

RACHAEL EUBANKS
STATE TREASURER

DETROIT FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMISSION

SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION 2019-26

APPROVING THE COMMUNITY DISTRICT'S OCTOBER OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

WHEREAS, Public Act 181 of 2014, the Michigan Financial Review Commission Act (the "Act"), allows for the creation of the Detroit Financial Review Commission (the "Commission") within the Michigan Department of Treasury; and

WHEREAS, Section 6(1) of the Act empowers the Commission to provide oversight for the Detroit Public Schools Community District (the "Community District") beginning on June 21, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Section 7(q) of the Act provides that during the period of oversight, the Commission approve all Community District reimbursements to school board members, officials, and employees for travel outside the state; and

WHEREAS, at the Commission meeting on October 28, 2019, the Community District presented out-of-state travel reimbursement requests, attached as **Exhibit A** to this Resolution, for the Commission's review and approval.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Detroit Financial Review Commission as follows:

1. That the Community District's October 28, 2019 out-of-state travel reimbursement requests, attached as **Exhibit A** to this Resolution but excluding any reimbursements a majority of Commission members present has agreed to exclude as noted in the minutes, are hereby approved.
2. That the minutes of the Detroit Financial Review Commission meeting at which this Resolution is adopted take notice of the adoption of this Resolution.
3. This Resolution shall have immediate effect.

Out-of-State Travel Requests

The following reimbursements (estimated cost) are being provided to the Board of Education for review and approval. These must also be provided to the FRC for review and approval pursuant to section 7(q) of the Michigan Financial Review Commission Act.

	Conference Name	Location of Trip	Dates of Conference	School / Department	Central Office	Student	Faculty/Chaperones	Total Participants	Funding Source	Total Est. Cost	Approved by:	Notes
1	Academic Games National Tournament	Atlanta, GA	April 17 – April 20, 2020	Curriculum	TBD	TBD	TBD	76	Grant Funds	\$87,045	Finance Committee 09.27.2019 Academic Committee 10.09.2019 Board 10.15.2019 Anticipated Approval FRC 10.28.2019	Up to 76 students, coaches, and chaperones from 33 schools. Only the top state qualifying teams will be attending Nationals.
2	Chess National Tournaments	High School: Columbus, OH Jr. High School: Jacksonville, FL Elementary School: Nashville, TN	April 2 – April 6, 2020 April 23 – April 27, 2020 May 7 – May 11, 2020	Curriculum	TBD	TBD	TBD	165	Grant Funds	\$129,237	Finance Committee 09.27.2019 Academic Committee 10.09.2019 Board 10.15.2019 Anticipated Approval FRC 10.28.2019	12 High Schools, 20 Jr. High Schools, and 17 Elementary Schools are competing. Only the top 3 qualify for Nationals after competing in the City League

Out-of-State Travel Requests

The following reimbursements (estimated cost) are being provided to the Board of Education for review and approval. These must also be provided to the FRC for review and approval pursuant to section 7(q) of the Michigan Financial Review Commission Act.

	Conference Name	Location of Trip	Dates of Conference	School / Department	Central Office	Student	Faculty/Chaperones	Participants	Funding Source	Total Est. Cost	Approved by:	Notes
3	Council of International Exchange Education Global Navigator Scholarships	Various countries as awarded	June & July 2020	Curriculum	0	25	0	25	Grant Funds	\$30,000	Finance Committee 09.27.2019 Academic Committee 10.09.2019 Board 10.15.2019 Anticipated Approval FRC 10.28.2019	As many as 25 students may win the scholarship; this is to fund airfare for students



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Oct 15, 2019 - Regular Board Meeting
Category	12. Consent Agenda (Administrative Items)
Subject	12.10 Out-of-State Travel Request - Academic Games National Tournament Travel
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve the request for out-of-state travel for 76 students, coaches, and chaperones to the National Tournament for Academic Games in Atlanta, GA for the period of April 17 through April 20, 2020 for an amount not-to-exceed \$87,045.

Public Content

Recommendation:

That the School Board approve request for out-of-state travel for 76 students, coaches, and chaperones to the National Tournament for Academic Games in Atlanta, GA for the period of April 17 through April 20, 2020 in the amount not-to-exceed \$87,045.

Description and Background:

This item was recommended for approval by the Finance Sub-Committee on September 27, 2019 and the Academic Sub-Committee on October 9, 2019.

This agenda item has been recommended for approval by the Academic and Finance Subcommittees. The following represents the travel request for approval. The District will cover event registration fees, lodging and meals.

Students who participate in Academic Games engage in critical thinking and learn skills integral to their academic experience. Students network and engage within highly competitive, head-to-head matches with other students from around the country.

Location and Dates:	All Schools Participating in Academic Games:		Criteria for Advancement:
Academic Games National Championship April 17- April 20, 2020 Atlanta, GA.	A.L Holmes	Davison	Only the top state qualifying teams will be attending Nationals after competing in the Super Tournament.
	Bagley	DCP at Northwestern	
	Ann Arbor Trail	Denby	
	Bates	Dixon	
	Bennett	Dossin	
	Bethune	Durfee	
	Blackwell	Emerson	
	Brenda Scott	Harms	
	Brewer	Henry Ford	
	Bunche	J.R. King	
	Carstens	Ludington	
	Carver STEM	Mackenzie	

	Cass Technical	Martin Luther King, Jr.
	Central	Mumford
	Cody	Munger
	CMA	Palmer Park
	Renaissance	

Gap Analysis:

Many students may have limited opportunities to travel out of the state and interact with their peers. By participating in the Academic Games, students can travel and interact with diverse students while sharpening their academic skills by competing in seven interdisciplinary games.

This item is being presented to the Board now because we must secure transportation & lodging early in order to obtain a better rate.

Previous Outcomes:

Years	Academic Games Previous Travel Costs
2017-2018	\$97,647.55
2018-2019	\$49,040.00

Expected Outcomes:

Success in the competition as well as the provision of a new experience. Further, students who connect and apply knowledge in a real-world setting are more likely to remain in school and transition to post-secondary studies.

All coaches will undergo a five-day PD in early Fall 2019 as well as specialized training for novice and veteran coaches to learn new strategies to help further their teams in this highly competitive activity.

Alignment to Strategic Plan:

Whole Child Commitment

Financial Impact:

\$87,045, Title IV Grant Funds

Contact for Item:

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Administrative Content

**Agenda Item Details**

Meeting	Oct 15, 2019 - Regular Board Meeting
Category	12. Consent Agenda (Administrative Items)
Subject	12.11 Out-of-State Travel Request - Chess National Tournament Travel
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve out-of-state travel for 165 students, coaches and chaperones to attend the Elementary, Jr. High and High School National Chess Tournaments for the period of April 2 - May 11, 2020 in the grant funded amount not-to-exceed \$129,237.

Public Content**Recommendation:**

That the School Board approve out-of-state travel for 165 students, coaches and chaperones to attend the Elementary, Jr. High and High School National Chess Tournaments for the period of April 2 through May 11, 2020 in the grant funded amount not-to-exceed \$129,237.

Description and Background:

This item was recommended for approval by the Finance Sub-Committee on September 27, 2019 and the Academic Sub-Committee on October 9, 2019.

Annually, District students from approximately 40 schools (listed below) participate in chess teams that compete for the opportunity to attend National Chess competitions. Approximately 9 schools, the top three from each category will travel and compete. In order to facilitate this opportunity for our students, the District funds event travel, registration fees and lodging. Students who participate in chess engage in critical thinking and learn skills integral to their academic experience. Students network and engage within highly competitive, head-to-head, chess matches with other students from around the country.

Students will be competing in various cities across the U.S according to their grade levels.

High School Chess Nationals Columbus, OH April 2 to April 6, 2020	Jr. High Chess Nationals Jacksonville, FL April 23-April 27, 2020	Elementary Chess Nationals Nashville, TN May 7 to May 11, 2020
High Schools competing are Cass Tech, Renaissance High, Ben Carson, DCP at Northwestern, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Western International, Southeastern, Mumford, Henry Ford, Central, CMA and Martin Luther King	Schools competing are Bates Academy, Munger, Bethune, Ann Arbor Trail, Bunche, Cooke, Dossin, Fisher, Hutchinson, Ludington, Marcus Garvey, FLICS, Sampson-Webber, Palmer Park Academy, Golightly, Marquette, Thirkell, Detroit Lions Academy, Brewer	Schools competing are Bates Academy, Chrysler, Davison, Ann Arbor Trail, Bunche, Charles Wright Academy, Cooke, Mann, FLICS, Golightly, Detroit International Academy, A.L Holmes, Bagley, Harms, Nichols, Vernor, Priest,
Only the top 3 qualify for Nationals after competing in our city league	Only the top 3 qualify for Nationals after competing in our city league	Only the top 3 qualify for Nationals after competing in our city league

Gap Analysis:

Many students may have limited opportunities to travel out of the state and interact with their peers. By participating in the chess tournament, students can travel and interact with diverse students. Further, studies have shown that chess develops memory, concentration, logical thinking, imagination, creativity, independence and self – motivation, which all support academic achievement.

This item is coming now because we must secure transportation & lodging early in order to obtain a better rate.

Previous Outcomes:

Years	Number of Chess National Tournaments Attended	Previous Travel Costs
2017-2018	1	\$53,499
2018-2019	3	\$111,232.84

Expected Outcomes:

Success in the competition as well as the provision of a new experience. Further, students who connect and apply knowledge in a real-world setting are more likely to remain in school and transition to post-secondary studies. All coaches will undergo a 5-Day PD in early Fall as well as specialized training for novice and veteran coaches to learn new strategies to help further their teams in this highly competitive activity.

Alignment to Strategic Plan:

Whole Child Commitment

Financial Impact:

\$129,237 (All 3 National chess tournaments will be staying at the host hotels for each tournament).

Contact for Item:

Name: Beth Gonzalez, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction
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Administrative Content



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Oct 15, 2019 - Regular Board Meeting
Category	12. Consent Agenda (Administrative Items)
Subject	12.12 Out-of-State Travel Request - Airfare for CIEE Global Navigator Scholarship Winners
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve the allocation for out-of-state airfare for CIEE Global Navigator Scholarship winners in June and July 2020 in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.

Public Content

Recommendation:

That the School Board approve the allocation for out-of-state airfare for CIEE Global Navigator Scholarship winners in June and July 2020 in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000.

Description and Background:

This item was recommended for approval by the Finance Sub-Committee on September 27, 2019 and the Academic Sub-Committee on October 9, 2019.

The Council of International Exchange Education (CIEE) provides the Global Navigator Scholarships to high school students who would like to learn languages and cultures in an immersion setting abroad attending school and living in selected houses with native speakers of the selected language. CIEE has 21 language schools across the globe. This opportunity would be for approximately 25 High School Students to travel to different countries in June and July 2020 to study languages and cultures or complete projects with the important financial support from a donor.

The CIEE Global Navigator Scholarship is a very competitive scholarship that covers the financial needs of the scholarship winners based on families' needs but does not include the trip to the country the student selects to study. For the last 3 years, a total of 36 (thirty-six) students from Renaissance and Cass Tech High Schools have won the CIEE Global Navigator scholarships. Students and families have previously expressed concerns that the costs associated with travel have been a hardship and in some instances, have caused students to be unable to participate. These District students have successfully completed language and culture education (as well as community projects) in foreign countries where the CIEE has schools. These students demonstrated through an Avant Stamp exam that they have increased the language proficiency after being in an immersion setting for a month.

Renaissance High School is a Global Navigator School, the only school in Michigan that has earned this status in 2016 and has maintained this privilege for the last 3 years. This means that the students compete internally for the CIEE Global Navigator Scholarship. Cass Tech students compete nationally. The District's goal is to promote the scholarship among other high schools so more students apply each year and earn scholarships with the support of their world language teachers.

The following charts represent the travel requests, details and related costs:

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	Participating High Schools	Estimated number of CIEE GN Scholarship winners.	Estimated Costs
This stipend includes the round air ticket from Detroit to the country where the scholarship winners will complete the language and culture course and back to Detroit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaissance (Global Navigator School) • Cass Tech • Osborne HS • Other high schools 	Based on data for the last three years, approximately 15 (fifteen) students may win the CIEE Global Navigator Scholarships in November/ December 2019 that will allow them to complete language and culture education in a school in a foreign country of their choice (21 options) in June/July 2020, with the important financial support from a donor.	The estimated cost per student for a round-trip air ticket: \$1,200/ \$1,500.
Total	3 or more	Approximately 15/ Max. 25 students	\$30,000

Gap Analysis:

This main purpose of this unique international experience for the scholarship winners is to develop language proficiency and culture awareness. The specific purpose of this trip is to embed these students into a different language and culture, bring the history of a country that they have studied in class alive, and support them to become globally competent, able to make a difference within our community.

It is important that our CIEE Global Navigator scholarship winners have financial support to travel to the countries to complete the language and culture programs for a month in June/ July 2020.

Previous Outcomes:

Flight expenditures have previously been funded by students' parents or fundraised by the school. For the 2019-20 school year, the District has received approval of Title IV funds to support this.

Expected Outcomes:

This scholarship opportunity will have a direct positive impact on the selected students. Exposure opportunities via international experiences help students to grow and discover their career passion. Research also has shown that students who connect and apply their learning in a real-world setting are more likely to remain in school and transition to post-secondary studies. Previous students demonstrated via Avant Stamp exam that they increased the language proficiency after being in an immersion setting for a month, and we expect similar results for future participants. Additionally, it is expected that unique programmatic offerings such as CIEE's offered at the selected high schools will be an added attractive interest to parents and future students to enroll in these schools.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Outstanding Achievement
Whole Child Commitment

Financial Impact:

\$30,000 (Funded by Title IV)

Total estimated cost for each airfare for CIEE scholarship winners in June/July 2020 is between \$1,200 to \$1,500.

Contact for Item:

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Administrative Content