

To: Dr. Mike Riggle

From: Paul Pryma & Brian Wegley

Re: Debate Student Travel Information

Date: October 17, 2008

General Information on Student Travel

Below is a summary regarding the information on student travel along with information that summarizes the impact the new *Guidelines for Student Trips* (see attached) has had on our debate program.

There are three types of travel that occur within District 225.

Types of Travel	Description of Travel
Student Trips	Sponsored, conducted and partially or fully financed by District 225. These include field trips, activity trips, athletic trips, etc.
Educational Tours	Conducted by District 225 but not financed by the district. Example: Band tour to Arizona.
Educational Travel	Not sponsored or financed by District 225. Sponsor allowed to “inform” students of travel plans.

Student trips are the most common scenario for our students and the only travel financed by the district. In the past, 100% of travel costs and meals were covered by District 225 for student trips. Seven years ago, as part of District 225 efficiency work, the district stopped supporting meals for student trips. In addition, three years ago, the administrative team worked with the board to establish clear guidelines for student trips.

The *Guidelines for Student Trips* have been followed carefully by our athletic teams, clubs and activities. They only participate in contests and activities approved by the IHSA or that meet the guidelines established by the National Association of Secondary School Principals in the “National Advisory List of Approved Student Contests and Activities” publication. In addition, the district reduced its financial responsibility to 75% of the transportation and lodging expenses for national travel. Students have assumed the responsibility for 25% of the costs associated with travel and lodging at national contests. Students continue to pay for their meals during all forms of travel.

This cost sharing strategy has realized its desired affects. In general, these guidelines have caused clubs to reexamine their fund-raising and generating strategies and have helped raise awareness of costs associated with travel. However, the downside of this new policy, as predicted, is that fund-raising efforts by sponsors and coaches pulls them away from their focused efforts with students. In addition, in the current economy, it is becoming increasingly difficult to successfully fund-raise and secure corporate sponsors.

Impact of New Guidelines on Debate

The Glenbrook Debate programs are slightly different in structure, but both incredible. The success of these two programs with state and national championships year after year reflect positively on the quality of our high schools and bring national recognition to the Glenbrooks. The GBN program focuses on Policy, Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum, with all three usually occurring at the same tournament. The GBS program participates in Policy, Public Forum and Congressional Debate. GBS has experienced healthy participation increases due to Congressional Debate. These increased numbers, combined with the fact that tournaments are at different locations, has led to a slight increase in the number of regional contests at GBS. This increase was discussed and approved previously by the board. It is important to note that the number of out-of-state and national contests has not increased.

The following data is a summary of contest numbers and budgets for the debate programs at Glenbrook North and Glenbrook South High Schools over the past five years.

Contest Numbers

Table 1: Glenbrook North High School

Year	Regional Trips	National Trips	National Finals	Total Out of State Trips
2004-2005	16 (3 in contiguous states)	9	3	15
2005-2006	20 (4 in contiguous states)	9	3	16
2006-2007+	14 (3 in contiguous states)	9	3	15
2007-2008	16 (4 in contiguous states)	9	3	16
2008-2009	18 (3 in contiguous states)	9	3 possible	15 possible

Table 2: Glenbrook South High School

Year	Regional Trips	National Trips	National Finals	Total Out of State Trips
2004-2005	23(4 in contiguous states)	8	3	15
2005-2006	24 (3 in contiguous states)	7	3	14
2006-2007*	20 (2 in contiguous states)	9	3	14
2007-2008	25 (3 in contiguous states)	8	3	14
2008-2009	24 (2 in contiguous states)	9	3 Possible	14 Possible

Debate Budget History

Table 3: Glenbrook Debate Financial Summary

Year	GBN Debate Budget	GBS Debate Budget
2004-2005	\$56,450	\$59,889
2005-2006	\$51,000	\$57,606
2006-2007*	\$53,750	\$57,606
2007-2008	\$57,000	\$57,606
2008-2009	\$61,000	\$57,606

Table 4: GBN Debate National Student Travel

Year	Total Expenses	GBN Budget Contribution (75%)	GBN Debate Student Contribution (25%)
2006-2007*	\$30,867.19	\$23,150.39	\$7,716.80
2007-2008	\$21,340.20	\$16,005.15	\$5,335.05

Table 5: GBS Debate National Student Travel

Year	Total Expenses	GBS Budget Contribution (75%)	GBS Debate Student Contribution (25%)
2006-2007*	\$29,253.53	\$23,402.82	\$5,850.71
2007-2008	\$28,048.11	\$22,438.48	\$5,609.63

**First year of new Guidelines for Student Trips*

Summary

The debate programs have experienced little or no increase to their budgets, and have maintained their number of out-of-state contests. It is important to note that travel costs have risen significantly in the past few years, which has put our programs in a tighter financial position. As a result, both GBN and GBS have dropped one of their most expensive trips, The Harvards, in order to absorb increasing travel costs and registration fees. The debate programs at both schools have a long history of fund raising in order to supplement travel and overall program expenses. The parents, students and staff of each program should be commended for their efforts over the years in establishing two of the premier debate programs in the country.

Glenbrook High Schools

Guidelines for Student Trips

Standards for Approval

- Contests/activities must be approved by the IHSA or meet the guidelines established by the National Association of Secondary School Principals in its publication: "National Advisory List of Approved Student Contests and Activities"
- Contests/activities must comply with the provisions of Board Policy 7230: Student Trips
- Any student trips resulting from a state, contiguous state, or national competition must be pre-approved by the school administration
- Entry fees, registration, judging and/or officiating will be paid by the school district
- Expenses for students on free/reduced lunch will be handled in accordance with Board Policy 8170: Student Aid for Students Unable to Purchase Textbooks and Other Items Necessary for Their Education

Local (Within Cook or Contiguous Counties)

- The school district will provide transportation
- Meals and lodging will be provided by the students, parents, or sponsoring organization through fundraising activities

State/Contiguous State

- The school district will provide transportation and lodging
- Meals will be provided by the students, parents, or sponsoring organization through fundraising activities

National

- The school district will provide 75% of the transportation and lodging expenses
- Meals and the remaining 25% of transportation expenses will be provided by the students, parents, or sponsoring organization through fundraising activities