

# GLENBROOK SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Northfield Township High School District 225

4000 WEST LAKE AVENUE  
GLENVIEW, IL 60026

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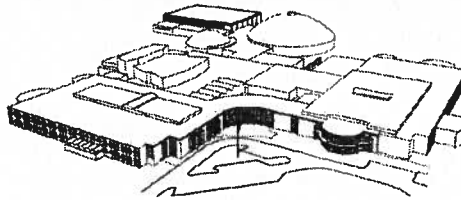
*Office of the Principal*

**To:** Dr. Mike Riggle

**From:** Brian K. Wegley *BKW*

**Re:** GBS Japanese Student Exchange

**Date:** January 23, 2011



Attached is a travel request from Dr. Yasuko Makita-Discekici, our Japanese teacher. For the past three years Dr. Makita-Discekici has coordinated the visitation of Japanese students from Kokusai Joho High School, which is located about 2 hours outside of Tokyo and is a high-performing public school. The visits have proven to be valuable experiences for our students, families and visitors.

Dr. Makita-Discekici has successfully arranged an exchange opportunity with Kokusai Joho High School for our students to visit Japan. Instead of using a travel agency as is sometimes done with student tours, Dr. Makita-Discekici will lead the travel arrangements with the help of teachers who have successfully scheduled these trips at Walter Payton High School, Streamwood High School and Evanston Township High School.

Students from Kokusai Joho High School visited GBS last March. The GBS student visitation to Japan is projected to begin the week following the end of school from June 11, 2012 through June 25, 2012. As defined in the attached Board Policy 7050, this will be an Educational Tour, which is travel that is conducted, but not financed, by the district.

This Educational Tour was originally approved to occur last June. However, due to the earthquake that hit Japan, last year's trip was canceled. Dr. Makita-Discekici and the Instructional Supervisor of World Language, Ms. Fitch, have verified that travel is now completely safe and are once again seeking board approval. I have met with Ms. Fitch to review the current state of the area to be visited and have learned that the region is completely safe for our students. In fact, Northside Prep High School visited this area of Japan last summer and Evanston High School had a successful trip in this same region this past November.

This exchange will mirror those currently occurring in Spain, France and Germany. I am thankful for this opportunity for our families and students and I support the approval of this tour.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

**To:** Brian Wegley  
**From:** Dr. Yasuko Makita-Discekici

cc: Danita Fitch  
Cameron Muir  
Dr. Michael Riggle

**Date:** Monday, December 12, 2011

**Subject:** Japanese Exchange Program

**Exchange Proposal:** This proposed student exchange is an exciting development for the GBS Japanese program. Glenbrook South has been invited to participate in an exchange with Kokusai Joho High School in Niigata, Japan. This invitation is a direct result of the positive relationship that GBS has cultivated by generously and enthusiastically hosting 25 students from Kokusai Joho annually for the past 4 years. Again in March 2012, 25 students from Kokusai Joho will visit Glenbrook South and will stay with host families. For the first time, GBS students have the opportunity to visit Japan during June of 2012, after the school year. This proposal requests board approval for this exchange, since the inclusion of a travel portion is now being sought.

**The School:** Kokusai Joho High School (KJ) is a public, coeducational school located in Niigata Prefecture, which is located on the main [*Honshuu*] island on the coast of the Sea of Japan. It is approximately two hours by super express train [*shinkansen*] from Tokyo. Niigata Prefecture has a partnership with the State of Illinois.

- 160 highly selective students are enrolled in each grade (three years of high school);
- Every year about 90 % of the seniors are successfully admitted to universities through rigorous entrance examinations;
- The curriculum for the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> year consists of International Culture Courses or Information Science Courses;
- The school goal is to help students develop international and organization skills so that they might play an active part in a rapidly internationalizing and information oriented world.

**Rationale:** 108 students are currently studying Japanese language and culture in the Japanese program at Glenbrook South. Many aspects of the culture as well as linguistic situations are difficult, if not impossible, to replicate in the classroom. An on-going exchange program strengthens the overall Japanese program, by allowing a significant number of GBS students the opportunity to experience Japanese culture first-hand. These students, in turn, are able to share their experiences with other students of Japanese, and share the insights they gain with classmates in other courses across the curriculum. The entire school benefits from the opportunity to discuss and share ideas with the Japanese students and their teachers when they visit Glenbrook South.

As in the past, the hosting portion for the exchange impacts Glenbrook South in the following ways:

- The Japanese students will arrive March 18-26, 2012. The Japanese students will be accompanied by a teacher from Kokusai Joho. They will spend approximately 8 days with their host families in Glenview.
- The Japanese visitors will be integrated into various predetermined classes, departments and will shadow their host GBS student to classes.

- The Dean's office will provide student ID cards for all Japanese visitors.
- The district office will be contacted if bus passes are needed.
- The Dean's office will allow for 25 extra students to eat lunch in the cafeteria during the time of the Japanese exchange.

#### Japan, 2012

- The trip to Japan will start the week after finals; June 11, 2012 and return June 25, 2012.
- Students will stay with Japanese host families for 5 days in Niigata, and will shadow their partners' at Kokusai Joho High School.
- Students will depart Niigata, and fly to Osaka and visit the ancient cities of Kyoto and Nara.
- Two nights will be spent in Hiroshima. Students will visit the Peace Memorial Museum Park in Hiroshima and the Miyajima shrine.
- In Tokyo, students will visit Mitsubishi Motors in Marunouchi; Asakusa (downtown Tokyo); Akihabara (electronic shops); Harajuku (fashion district); Shibuya (NHK public broadcasting station), Meiji Shrine, and Tokyuu Hands (for souvenirs).
- The approximate cost will be \$3,400 including airfare, trains, ferries, hotels, entrance fees, meals, and some souvenirs.

**Board Approval:** I am seeking board approval for a variety of reasons. This is an educational exchange conducted, but not financed by the district. This exchange has direct relevancy to the Japanese curriculum at Glenbrook South in that its main objective is the integration of students into the everyday life of exchange host families and into the classroom activities of host schools to provide them with greater intercultural understandings. GBS parents have also been strong advocates for this type of opportunity for their children studying Japanese.

**Presentation to the Board of Education:** I am requesting your assistance in bringing this proposal before the School Board.

## 2012 Summer trip to Japan Itinerary

### **Day 1: 6/11 (M)**

By American Airlines

12:50pm - Leave Chicago O'Hare

### **Day 2: 6/12 (T):**

3:15pm - Arrive at Tokyo International (Narita) Airport; Go to Hotel & check in: Stay at Hotel in Narita, shopping & dinner at Mall (shuttle bus services)

### **Day 3: 6/13 (W):**

Breakfast included at hotel

8:30am - Leave hotel;

9:00am - Arrive at Tokyo International (Narita) Airport by shuttle (15 minutes)

10:00am - Go to Tokyo Station by Narita Express

10:30 am - Leave Tokyo station for Niigata (Urasa)

12:00pm - Arrive at Urasa Station

*Afternoon: Visit Kokusai Joho (KJ) High School & meet with KJ families*

**Day 4 - 6/14 (Th):** Home stay with KJ families and attend classes at KJ

**Day 5 - 6/15 (F):** Home stay with KJ families and attend classes at KJ

**Day 6 - 6/16 (Sat):** Home stay with KJ families

**Day 7 - 6/17 (S):** Home stay with KJ families

**Day 8 - 6/18 (M):**

8:00am - Leave Urasa for Niigata

9:00am - Arrive at Niigata

11:00am - Leave Niigata Airport for Osaka Airport – Go to Osaka Station

1:00pm - Leave Osaka Station

3:00pm - Arrive at **Kyoto**; Miyako Hotel/Tokyuu Kyoto

Late afternoon: Sightseeing in Kyoto

**Day 9 - 6/19(T):** All day sightseeing in Kyoto- (Golden pavilion, Kiyomizu temple, etc.)

**Day 10 - 6/20(W):** Visit **Nara** in the morning

(Kyoto-Tokyo: Ship out all suitcases)

Leave Nara for Osaka-Hiroshima by bullet train called *shinkansen*

3:00 pm - Arrive at Hiroshima; Stay at Tokyuu Hotel

**Day 11- 6/21(Th):** Sightseeing:

Peace Memorial Museum/park + Miyajima (by train, ferry)

**Day 12 - 6/22 (F):** Go back to **Tokyo** by shinkansen (5 hours)

Visit Mitsubishi Motors in Showroom, Marunouchi in the afternoon

**Day 13 - 6/23 (Sat):** Visit Asakusa/Odaiba/Akihabara

**Day 14 - 6/24 (Sun):** Harajuku/NHK/Meiji Shrine

1:00pm: Leave Shibuya

3:00pm – Arrive at Narita Airport

5:45pm - Leave Narita for Chicago O’Hare by American Airlines

**6/25 (Mon)**

3:30pm – Arrive at Chicago O’Hare

**GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS**  
**Travel Requests Requiring Board of Education Approval**

I. School    GBN \_\_\_ GBS  GBE \_\_\_ GBOC \_\_\_ District \_\_\_

II. Initiator    Yasuko Makita-Discekici    Phone 4276  
 Position    Japanese teacher    Date of Submission 1-3-2012

III. Dates and Times of Leave/Return  
 Total Number of School Days Missed per Person    0  
 Departure Date/Time 6/11/2012    Return Date/Time 6/25/2012

IV. Name of Individuals Participating in Tour: (Attach list if necessary.)  
 Teachers and Staff    Yasuko Makita-Discekici  
 Students    Eligible students of GBS Japanese language program (~8-12 students)

V. Description, Destination, and Reason for Trip  
Part of the reciprocal exchange with Kokusai Joho H.S. in Japan.

VI. Cost of Trip  
 Was this trip included in your    Dept. \_\_\_ Bldg. \_\_\_ District \_\_\_ Budget? NO

	Total Amount	Per Person	Account #
Registration	_____	_____	_____
Lodging	_____	<u>1,400</u>	_____
Meals (Advance)	_____	_____	_____
Judging	_____	N/A	_____
Substitute Teacher	_____	N/A	_____
Transportation	_____	_____	_____
Air	_____	<u>2,000</u>	_____
Bus/Car	_____	_____	_____
District Total	_____	N/A	N/A
Cost to Student	_____	<u>\$3,400</u>	N/A

VII. Approval  
Danita Litch    Dr. K. Neff  
 Supervisor                      Principal                      Superintendent  
1-3-2012                      1-23-2012                      \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date                                      Date                                      Date

Reminder: No purchases or expenses prior to Board of Education approval.

Glenbrook High School District #225

BOARD POLICY: EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

7050

Page 1 of 2 pages

Section A - Introduction

The Board of Education of District #225 believes that educational travel experiences can provide significant educational experiences for Glenbrook students. However, it is the policy of the Board of Education that such travel experiences should not be scheduled to conflict with normal student attendance days. Under extraordinary circumstances, the Board may approve exceptions to this policy.

Section B - Educational Tours: Travel Conducted, but Not Financed, by the District

1. The Board of Education is authorized by Illinois statute to conduct educational tours as a supplement to particular courses of instruction, within or without the district, the State of Illinois, or the United States.
2. Recommendation of the principal and approval of the superintendent shall be required for all educational tours. Recommendation of the principal and the superintendent and approval of the Board of Education shall be required for educational tours conducted outside the State of Illinois or adjacent states, and for educational tours that require students to be absent from school for one day or more.
3. No student or employee may participate in an educational tour unless he has accident and health insurance coverage protecting against bodily injury or death and, if he is an employee, disability while participating in the tour. Cost of said insurance shall be assumed by the organization financing the tour. Validation of satisfactory insurance coverage shall be made in writing to the assistant superintendent of business affairs.
4. The Board of Education is not authorized to use school funds for any expenditures incurred on such a tour for meals, lodging, or transportation costs. However, the Board may authorize the payment of salaries of necessary personnel while on tour if the personnel are performing in the ordinary course of their employment.
5. All school rules and regulations regarding student conduct shall apply for students participating in educational tours.

Section C - Educational Travel : Travel Not Sponsored, Supported, or Conducted by the District

1. The Board of Education authorizes the superintendent to approve requests submitted by a school employee or a private agency and which have been recommended for approval by the principal, to use school facilities to inform students of educational travel programs within any of the fifty United States or any foreign country which, in the discretion of the principal and the superintendent, have educational significance for the district's students. Such use may be granted only with the clear understanding that the program is not sponsored or supported by the Board of Education and that the Board of Education assumes no legal responsibility or financial liability related to the program. Further, all materials used by the sponsoring agency in publicizing the program must contain a statement to this effect which has been approved by the superintendent. These same materials must also carry the identification of the sponsoring agency.
2. No student or employee may participate in educational travel unless he has accident and health insurance coverage protecting against bodily injury or death and, if an employee, disability while participating in the educational travel. Cost of said insurance shall be assumed by the employee or private agency financing the educational travel. Validation of satisfactory insurance coverage shall be made in writing to the assistant superintendent of business affairs.

Section D - Use of Equipment, Materials, or Supplies to Promote Educational Travel

Glenbrook equipment, materials or supplies, including stationery, shall be used for school-sponsored activities only, and shall not be used for any educational travel which is not school sponsored.

Section E - Student Trips Exclusion

Student trips are not included within the provisions of this policy.

Approved: April 12, 1971  
Revised: February 5, 1973  
Revised: December 1, 1975  
Revised: February 6, 1978  
Revised: January 23, 1984  
Revised: September 10, 1984  
Reviewed: November 14, 1988  
Revised: October 28, 1996  
Revised: November 27, 2000