



**6.50.022-AD      Travel-Study Committee – Sister City and Council of Great City Schools Programs**

- (1) It is the responsibility of public schools to prepare their students to live and work successfully in our rapidly changing international society. For this reason student will need a solid base of understanding of the world's social, political, and ethnic diversity. An excellent and cost-effective teacher tool to pursue this goal is well-planned foreign travel-study. To control costs and expand opportunities, the district will benefit by an established system of mutual cooperation with private and governmental agencies involved in established relationships with foreign governments.
- (2) The City of Portland has formal Sister-City relationships with several cities in other countries. The Portland School District is a member of the National Council of Great City Schools. Both of these organizations encourage and support short-term foreign travel-study visits, the City of Portland through the Sister-City Associations and the Council of Great City Schools through the International Education - Student Ambassador Exchange Committee.
  - (a) Portland's Sister-City relationships exist with Sapporo, Japan (11-17-59); Guadalajara, Mexico (2-1-84); Corinto, Nicaragua (4-17-85); Ashkelon, Israel (10-12-87); Ulsan, South Korea (11-20-87); Suzhou, China (6-7-88); and Khabarovsk, USSR (6-10-88. A Sister-City Handbook and a list of criteria for Sister-City relationships adopted February 5, 1986, are available from the Mayor's Office of International Relations.
  - (b) The Council of Great City Schools has official travel-study exchange programs with Israel, the United Kingdom, and Canada.
  - (c) The Portland school district cooperates with these programs to provide access to educational benefits for individual students, their schools, and the district. Direct cultural contact promotes intercultural understanding and provides opportunities for foreign language learning and use. (See 6.50.020-P Foreign Study Programs.)
  - (d) To facilitate that cooperation the superintendent shall appoint by June 1 of each year a district Travel-Study Committee which will be responsible for presenting recommendations to the superintendent regarding these programs.
- (3) Travel-Study Committee
  - (a) Composition of the Committee

- (A) The district's Travel-Study Committee will include, but not be limited to, representation from the Curriculum and Public Information Departments, the Office of Enrollment Services, and a representative of the Directors of Student Achievement, the Portland Association of Public School Administrators, and Portland Association of Teachers, and the official Sister-City School Committees.
- (B)

study plans with the Committee at least three months prior to the estimated date of departure.

- (k) The Committee will conduct an annual survey of staff to develop a list of host homes for visiting educators.
  - (l) The Committee will review and recommend action to the superintendent on any requests for Teacher Exchange Programs.
  - (m) The Committee will file an annual report with the superintendent's office by June 30 each year describing Committee activities and expenditures recommended and authorized.
- (5) Criteria to be Considered in Selection
- (a) What is the benefit of the proposed activity to the Portland School District?
  - (b) What is the benefit of the proposed activity to the community?