



Attention: Tim Piwowar, Superintendent of Schools
From: Amy Davenport, Westwood High School Principal
Re: Travel-based Learning
Date: December 5, 2025

Westwood High School strives to develop adaptive thinkers and leaders who are prepared for diverse futures and contribute actively to their communities. Since 2024, I have worked with you to leverage existing partnerships with outside organizations to develop service- and travel-based learning beyond the classroom. Service-based learning offers WHS students the chance to actively contribute to global communities. Through hands-on involvement in meaningful projects, they develop a deeper understanding of societal issues, cultivate a sense of responsibility, and hone their leadership skills. Similarly, travel-based learning allows students to immerse themselves in diverse environments and engage with unfamiliar perspectives as they cultivate their identities as global citizens. These experiences also serve as professional development for our staff and strengthen their relationships with students. By engaging in experiential learning alongside students, our educators model the district's commitment to lifelong learning.

In collaboration with EF Educational Tours, WHS proposes launching the following place-based opportunities during the 2026-2027 school year:

- (1) February 2027: Service-based learning trip to Peru for students grades 10-12
- (2) April 2027: Travel-based learning trip to Japan for students grades 10-12
- (3) J-Term 2027: Travel-based learning trip to the Galapagos Islands for students grades 10-11

I look forward to your feedback about the attached proposal from EF Educational Tours, and to sharing further information about these opportunities with students, families, and the broader community in the weeks and months ahead.