

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE

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Model UN Field Trip - **BHS MUN** at BerMun

International Field Trip Application

Berlin, Germany

November 18 – November 24, 2019

For review and consideration by the

Brookline School Committee

Approval Route:	Approved	Denied	*Returned
Copies to:			
TEACHING & LEARNING	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
SUPERINTENDENT	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MEETING DATE	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
*REASON RETURNED:	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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APPLICATION FOR ALL OUT-OF-STATE, OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS

TRIP LOGISTICS:

1. **Name of Field Trip:** BHS MUN at BerMUN
2. **Educator Requesting Field Trip Approval:** Noah Gronlund-Jacob
3. **School:** Brookline High School **Grade Level:** 10 - 12
4. **Have you reviewed the School Committee Policy 13 a. for School Sponsored Field Trips?** Yes
5. **Have you reviewed the document "Administrative Procedures for School Sponsored Field Trips"?** Yes
6. **Have you reviewed the document "Field Trip Planning Guide"?** Yes

These documents can be found in the Staff Portal of the district website (www.brookline.k12.ma.us) in the Office of Teaching and Learning link.

7. **What is your destination?** Berlin, Germany
8. **What is the date and time you are leaving school?** Mon Nov 18, 2019. Students will arrange their own transportation to Logan Airport.
9. **What is the date and time you are returning to school?** Sun Nov 24, 2019. Students will arrange their own transportation home from Logan Airport.
10. **Do the dates of the trip conflict with any religious holidays or observances?** No
11. **How many days will students miss from school?** Four school days (Tue Nov 19 – Fri Nov 22)
12. **How are students being transported (school bus, chartered bus, plane, rail, etc)?**
Boston – Berlin: Plane
In Berlin: Public Transportation
Berlin – Boston: Plane

If students are traveling via bus, please complete the Requirements for Field Trip Transportation via Bus form

13. **How many students will be participating in the field trip?** 8 - 12
14. **What members of the student body are eligible for the trip?** Student who have been members of the Model UN club at the high school for one or more year, and have attended at least three other conferences. All members of the student body are eligible to participate in Model UN and Model UN makes an effort to allow all who are interested to attend conferences.
15. **How are students selected to participate in this field trip?** Interested students who have one or more years experience in the Model UN club will sign up in person at a club meeting. Those who wish to participate must turn in an application to the club, to be made up of an essay describing, a) why they wish to go to Berlin and, b) how their experiences in Model UN have affected their worldview. We will take a holistic approach in reviewing each of the applications, taking into account their achievement in school and teacher recommendations. Following the applications, each applicant will be interviewed by the two Secretaries-General of the club and the club advisor, Noah Gronlund-Jacob. The advisors and the Secretaries will then convene to decide upon the 10 students who will attend the conference with the club. If a student demonstrates poor citizenship or decorum during club meetings, they will not be allowed on the trip.

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16. Where will students be staying? Students will be staying at the Hotel Steglitz International. We have stayed at this hotel before. It is conveniently located between the conference site and Berlin center, making it conducive for sightseeing as well participating in the MUN conference.

17. What are the names and cell phone numbers of the primary staff chaperones on the trip?

Our chaperones will be staying at the hotel with the students and will be accessible to students on a 24-hour basis. Chaperons will also rent international cell phones, and will inform the Office of Teaching and Learning (and parents/guardians of students) of the phone numbers as soon as they are known.

- Noah Gronlund-Jacob (908-285-3110)
- Jennifer Jaruse (781-264-6909)

18. Other than those listed in #16 above, what are the names and roles (teacher, parent, etc) of other adult chaperones who will be on the trip? The two chaperones listed above are the only chaperones accompanying us on this trip.

EDUCATIONAL RELEVANCE

19. What is the purpose of the trip and how does it relate to Brookline's Learning Expectations (K-8) or BHS Course Syllabi? The purpose of this trip is to attend the Berlin Model UN conference at the John F. Kennedy International School. Students will engage in spirited debate with other students from around the world about matters ranging from the rights of Aboriginal Peoples to Nuclear Disarmament. This year's conference will center around the theme of Women's Empowerment, encouraging students to reflect on gender equality when drafting resolutions. Each student-delegate will be required to debate according to their assigned country's position, trying to craft the best possible solution to the problem posed by the committee's topic of debate. Going to BERMUN help the district achieve Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan of Brookline Public Schools, through strategies 3.1 and 3.5, which read "Strategy 3.1: Develop opportunities to enhance the global awareness of every student... Strategy 3.5: Create opportunities for student-led discussion and debate over matters related to moral and ethical global issues." As well as participating in an international simulation of the United Nations, we will explore German culture and history within Berlin, engaging in sightseeing and educational seminars, and visiting museums, monuments, and other important symbols of German culture. Students will, for instance, visit the DDR Museum, an exhibition the includes items used by people living in East Germany, and the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, a monument and museum that describes the course and effects of the Holocaust. Students will also visit important historical sites such as the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag, as well as the Tiergarten, each a unique opportunity to see in person some of the places discussed in their history classes. Students will also take general tours of the city, and will have time to explore the many Platz's and parks that decorate Berlin. This will allow students and educators alike to participate in the greater global society. As a learning experience, a trip to Berlin will be more effective than any lecture at helping students to understand unique aspects of WWII and the Cold War, in addition to contemporary issues. Students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a global city and participate in the building of an international community. Within the Model-UN conference, they will learn how to solve world problems at a global level, enhancing their views of political justice and preparing them for a diplomatic future. Even visiting a foreign country is a new experience for many students, and an invaluable one when it comes to the educational process. Students will want to participate in the trip out of a sense of adventure and curiosity, and come back with new wonder, knowledge, and respect for other nations, races, ethnicities, and cultures. They will come back as citizens of the world.

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20. Describe activities planned before the trip to prepare students: Students will be taught the difference between the Rules of Procedure used in the USA and the Rules of Procedure used at BERMUN, given how different they are. Additionally, students will research the position of their assigned country on various issues and will write Policy Papers to demonstrate understanding of the country's viewpoints. We will run multiple Policy Paper and Resolution Writing workshops to enhance the quality of said papers, and of formal writing in general. We will also have a number of books and literature for suggest reading, including, but not limited to:

- The UN Charter
- The UN Declaration on Human Rights
- Night – Elie Wiesel
- The Wall Jumper – Peter Schneider
- Götz von Berlichingen – Goethe
- Steppenwolf – Hermann Hesse
- A Concise History of Germany – Mary Fulbrook

The first two selections will be mandatory, as well as one other piece of German literature or history of the student's choice. For the two months before the trip, there will be meetings every X-block between students. We will also have one meeting for students, parents, and advisors, to make sure the paperwork for the trip has been filed and to prepare families for the coming trip.

21. Describe activities planned after the trip for students to wrap-up/reflect: Students will be asked to participate in a feedback session with the Model UN Board of Directors (which consists of 6 students and the advisor, Noah Gronlund-Jacob), to determine how we can make the trip better for the coming years. Those who go on the trip will also present their experiences to club during an X-block session and to parents at a later date. We will also present our experience at the conference and everything else we did in Berlin to our Middle School associate clubs at Lawrence, Driscoll, Devotion, Pierce, Heath, and Runkle, and allow the students at those school to experience a European Model UN simulation for their enrichment. Also, students will use the skills they learned at BERMUN to increase the quality of in-club (as well as out of club) debate, which benefits all club members.

ACCESSIBILITY AND STUDENT SAFETY

22. To what extent does the field trip group reflect the diversity of the school population? What efforts will be undertaken to ensure that, to the greatest extent possible, the participants in this field trip reflect the diversity of the school population? Please confirm in your answer that students are selected for the trip on a need-blind basis and that the trip will be advertised to students as need-blind, so that it is accessible to all students. In an effort to make the Brookline High School Model United Nations Club reflect the diversity of the school population, we engage in heavy recruitment each fall at the start of the school year. We are a club that is open to anyone who wishes to join, and we welcome everyone into our community. Additionally, because the conference is focused on discussing a wide range of issues, the club is able to appeal to a wide range of students with diverse backgrounds and interests. This trip will be heavily publicized, once approved, during club meetings and we will remind everyone that they need to attend at least one other conference in order to be considered for the Berlin trip. While these conferences have Delegates fees, BHS MUN will absolutely provide scholarships to any student who requires assistance. BHS MUN will actively engage in fundraising and, at the moment, there is approximately \$6000 in the club fund, allowing for scholarships.

23. What measures are planned to ensure student safety on the trip, including chaperone coverage, student behavior contracts, etc. Outfitted with international cell phones, chaperones will be on 24-hour availability. Chaperones will always be with students when outside of the hotel. All students will have the

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phone numbers of the chaperones on their person at all times, and no one will be allowed to be outside without a chaperone. Students will be given a behavior contract to be signed by both the attendee and their parents/guardians, and there will be a curfew in force. In addition, the chaperones have attended this conference in the past and are familiar with areas surrounding the JFK school.

24. What is the name and location of the medical facility closest to your destination? The Waldfriede Hospital, Argentinische Allee 40

25. Will students be swimming? (please note: if swimming is planned, parents must give explicit written permission for their child to swim; students who do not have this express written permission will not be allowed to swim) No

26. If travelling outside of the United States, please attach the appropriate Department of State Advisory Review and Notification and a copy of Consular statement. The Department of State Advisory Review can be found here: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/germany.html> and the Consular Statement here: <https://de.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/hamburg/mission-statement/> Students will not need visas because the trip is less than 90 days, however, their passports will need to be valid for 6 months beyond planned date of departure and have at least two blank pages.

FUNDING

27. What is the total cost of the trip per student? Please detail the major components of the trip below and provide a total. (add/edit headings as necessary)

Lodging	\$3770 total (\$75/night per student)
Travel	Airfare: \$7913 (\$990/flight per student) Metro Card: \$40
Admissions/Tickets (includes conference fees and various museums)	\$125
Souvenirs and other expenses	\$100
TOTAL per student:	\$1650 additional \$300 for meals during trip not pre-paid

28. How will the field trip be funded? All participating students and their families will be responsible for the funding of this trip. However, full and partial scholarships will be available to families that require them. There is also a position of the Model UN Board of Directors that deals specifically with fundraising. In the past, we have organized successful bake sales and worked with local businesses to raise funds. The price above is if 8 students attend; if 10 or 12 students attend the price per student will decrease by \$100 - \$200.

29. What accommodations are made for students who cannot afford the expenses of this trip? Are partial and/or full scholarships available? Scholarships will be available to those who request them, and must talk to Noah Gronlund-Jacob; the advisor of the club, to that end. Funds will be raised by the club as well as taken from the club treasury. Additionally, some scholarship money will be available through various BHS Scholarship funds such as the Underwood Fund.

30. If fundraisers are planned to help lower the cost of the trip for all students, please describe those plans here: The club will meet with parents and staff chaperones to discuss fundraisers which may include bake sales, clothes sales, and other methods of raising money for the trip. Fundraising is overseen specifically

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by the Secretary, a board position that is decided upon during elections. We will sell BHS MUN clothes and work with local businesses to raise funds for students that require scholarships.

If you need any assistance as you complete this application,
please contact the Office of Teaching and Learning at 617-730-2432.

Signatures:

Educator Requesting Field Trip Approval: MWD Date: 4/26/19

Principal: [Signature] Date: 4/30/19