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2020 Short-term Study Abroad Opportunity in Sweden

The Wareham Public Schools Global Education Department is pleased to announce an anticipated opportunity for between 4 and 8 incoming ninth grade students to participate in a two-way, short-term study abroad program between Wareham, MA and Gothenburg, Sweden. Any student who will be entering grade 9 for the 2019/20 school year is eligible to apply. All applicants will be interviewed by a committee of teachers and administrators, and selected students will travel to Gothenburg, Sweden for approximately 2 weeks in the late spring of 2020 with Director of Global Education, Ms. Maureen Manning. Selected students must be enrolled in Wareham Public Schools and in good standing.

While exact dates will be dependent on flight availability, we anticipate that the selected Gothenburg students will arrive in Wareham on or around March 8 and will stay until March 20, 2020. Selected Wareham students will travel to Gothenburg on or around May 23, 2020 and will stay for two weeks until approximately June 5, 2020, based on flight availability. The cost of this two-week short-term study abroad program in Europe is \$1475, plus any associated costs of a passport and spending money.

The selected Wareham students and their families agree to host a Swedish student from Onneredsskolan in Gothenburg, in their Wareham home mid-March for two weeks, providing that there are an even number of Swedish students enrolled in the program. By participating in this program, parents/guardians agree to complete a CORI with Wareham Public Schools, to have a home visit prior to the program, and to provide room and board to a Swedish student for two weeks. During this time, we ask that the ninth graders from Sweden see important area sites with their Wareham host families, such as Plymouth and Boston. During the school week, students will attend Wareham High School to experience school life in the US.

While in Gothenburg, Wareham students will stay with screened and interviewed host families who have students the same age at Onneredsskolan. Classes will be mainly in English, with Swedish lessons as well. Swedish host families will provide room and board for Wareham students. Students will attend Onneredsskolan with their host siblings and will participate in family field trips around Gothenburg with their host families.

Students will need to apply for and pay for their own passport if they do not currently hold a valid one. Passports need to be valid until at least December, 2020. It is recommended that students bring a gift for their host family, as well as a small amount of spending money, should they choose to purchase souvenirs. Students and families will attend orientation sessions in order to prepare for the trip. In addition, introductory Swedish lessons will be offered at each orientation session to teach conversational Swedish. This is to promote both a cultural and

language education component, however the students and teachers in Gothenburg speak both Swedish and English.

The Gothenburg to Wareham portion of this exchange is dependent upon minimum enrollment from Swedish students. The Wareham to Gothenburg portion of this exchange is dependent on a minimum enrollment of four students. If there is a situation in which there are an uneven number of Wareham to Gothenburg students, a Wareham student may not be asked to house a Swedish student but will still be permitted to attend the program in Sweden.

Anticipated Timeline:

June 25, 2019: Applications for this program are available by emailing Ms. Manning at mmanning@wareham.k12.ma.us.

September 13, 2019: By 2:00 p.m., applications are due to Ms. Manning via email.

End of September, 2019: Interviews will be held in the Multiservice Center by an interview team of teachers and administrators. All students submitting an application will be interviewed.

Early October, 2019: Email notifications will be distributed to those students selected and those wait-listed.

December 16, 2019: A non-refundable money order of \$1475 per student is due on or before this day.

Mid-March, 2020: (exact dates TBD) Swedish students spend two weeks in Wareham at WHS and live in the Wareham students' homes.

End of May/Early July, 2020: (exact dates TBD) WHS students spend 2 weeks in Gothenburg, Sweden at Onneredsskolan and live in the Swedish students' homes.

For more information, please contact Ms. Maureen Manning, Director of Global Education at mmanning@wareham.k12.ma.us.