

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

The Board of Trustees recognizes that personal contact between students of different countries promotes global awareness and international understanding. Letters, computer links, visits, and student exchange programs all can benefit students and the community at large.

With Board approval, a District school may establish a sister school relationship, such as “Hands Across the Border,” with a school in another country.

International Exchange Students in District Schools

Before enrolling an international exchange student in a District school, the Superintendent or designee shall request proof that the student is participating in an International Student Exchange Placement Organization (ISEPO) program registered with the California Attorney General's Office, accepting both F-1 and J-1 approved visas.

The Superintendent or designee shall obtain from the ISEPO a description of the services to be performed by the ISEPO for the student, host family, and the District; including telephone numbers that the student, host family, or staff may contact for assistance; and a summary of the student's complete prior academic coursework completed. (Government Code 12628; 22 CFR 62.25)

The District may require additional documents, which may include, but are not limited to, evidence that the student has health and accident insurance from the time of departure from home to the time the student returns to their home country. (11 CCR 360; 22 CFR 62.25)

To ensure that District facilities will not be overcrowded, the Superintendent or designee may limit the number of foreign exchange students to be accepted at any District high school during any school year.

The District shall not incur any financial obligation when educating international exchange students holding an F-1 visa. An international student, or the ISEPO on behalf of the student, shall reimburse the District for the full, unsubsidized per capita cost of providing education at a District school for the period of the visiting student's attendance. Tuition reimbursement only applies to F-1 visas.

In determining the tuition for international exchange students, the District shall calculate the total cost of educating the student, including, but not limited to, the amount expended per student for the current provision of instruction and services, the use of buildings and equipment, the repayment of local bonds and interest payments and state building loan funds, capital outlay, and transportation to and from school.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish District criteria for issuing regular or honorary diplomas to foreign exchange students. The principal or designee may refer to these criteria when helping foreign exchange students select classes, academic goals, and co-curricular activities that correspond with their individual qualifications, needs, and interests.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE (continued)

District staff shall provide relevant counseling to District students who wish to study in a foreign country. Students seeking District graduation credit for courses successfully completed in the foreign country must provide evidence of academic progress.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

Policy
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CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Juan Capistrano, California