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MEMO

From: Dr. Julie Hackett, Superintendent of Schools
To: Lexington School Committee
Re: 2023 Quebec Trips
Date: August 24, 2022

The purpose of this memo is to provide members of the School Committee an update on the proposed middle school field trips to Quebec. By way of background, these trips have always been scheduled during the week after Memorial Day. This year, consistent with years past, the proposed travel dates are May 30 - June 2, 2023, for both Clarke and Diamond Middle Schools. Please click the links below to view the proposals:

[Clarke Quebec, City, QC Trip from 5/30/23 - 6/2/23](#)

[Diamond Quebec, City, QC Trip from 5/30/23 - 6/2/23](#)

As a reminder, the School Committee tabled discussion of the middle school Quebec trip discussion at the June 14, 2022 School Committee, indicating a desire to schedule these trips during a school vacation week. After further discussion with the World Languages administration and staff, it would be difficult to make this change because we may not get enough staff or chaperones to attend the event. Many families also traditionally travel together during school vacations, so student participation may be limited.

Field trips require a great deal of planning, and they create extra work for our educators who are responsible for around-the-clock supervision. Additionally, many educators take family trips during school vacations, and these weeks offer some much needed respite to educators who work hard throughout the year.

For these reasons, I recommend immediate approval of the following field trips, so we can finalize plans for this year and communicate with students and parents. Thank you for your consideration.