



### **Eighth Grade Network Experience for Sacred Heart Greenwich -- Spring 2018**

The Sacred Heart Network Experience is an opportunity for eighth grade students to visit one of our sister Sacred Heart schools. During this one-week visit, students will live with a host family, attend classes and participate in the day-to-day life of another Sacred Heart school. The exchanges will take place between late February and the middle of April, dependent upon school and families' schedules. Exchange coordinators at each school will work with parents to find a suitable timeframe for students to visit.

Below is the list of schools we are hoping to exchange with in the Spring of 2018. While we anticipate full exchange opportunities with these schools, there are times when schools are not able to participate due to a small pool of exchange applicants. You should review the websites of the schools to determine if you are interested in visiting all of them. Also, note the dates schools are closed for their vacations as this may be important for your decision.

Sacred Heart Greenwich's spring break dates are March 12 - March 23. Students can travel to network schools during our spring break if they do not wish to miss any class time. We are also closed for the Easter long weekend from March 30 - April 2. Note below that some schools have longer Easter breaks.

#### **Exchange Schools**

**Convent of the Sacred Heart Elementary School (CES)** ---- San Francisco, CA

[http://www.sacredsfc.org/ces\\_about/index.aspx](http://www.sacredsfc.org/ces_about/index.aspx)

School closed for vacation: February 19 - February 23; March 30 - April 6

**Stuart Country Day School** --- Princeton, NJ

<http://www.stuartschool.org/>

School closed for vacation: March 13 - March 24

**Academy of the Sacred Heart** --- New Orleans, LA

<http://www.ashrosary.org/>

School closed for vacation: February 9 - March 16; March 29-April 4

**Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart** --- Miami, FL

[www.carrollton.org/](http://www.carrollton.org/)

School closed for vacation: February 19 - 23; March 26 - March 30

**Sacred Heart Sheridan Road** --- Chicago, IL

<https://www.shschicago.org/sacred-heart-schools>

School closed for vacation: March 30 - April 9

## **The Application Process**

Students must complete an application for the Network Exchange experience. Copies have been shared directly with eighth graders. **The completed application will be due to Mr. Zwack by Tuesday, November 21 via Google docs. Please make sure your daughter gives Mr. Zwack editing rights so he can then share with committee members.**

All eighth grade students are eligible. Students who qualify for financial assistance can receive support from the School if they are selected.

The student application consists of short responses to questions about their reasons for wanting to participate. Parents will need to complete their own portion of the application.

The applications will be reviewed by eighth grade advisors, Mr. Olson, Mrs. Weinman and Mr. Zwack. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Zwack at [zwackj@cshct.org](mailto:zwackj@cshct.org).

Final exchange decisions will be made before we leave for winter break. While we hope to be able to accommodate all exchange requests, the number of applicants may not allow us to do so.

## **Visiting Another School**

In each instance, the family hosting a Sacred Heart Greenwich student will have an 8th grade daughter who attends the Sacred Heart school that is being visited. The host family will take care of our student while she is away by providing all meals and making sure that she gets to/from school and the airport (if applicable).

The cost of airfare is the responsibility of the family of the student who is traveling. Families who qualify for financial assistance will receive support from the School.

In most cases, our students will be gone for five days of classes. Typically, a student will arrive the Saturday before her class visits in order to settle in with the host family as well as to have an opportunity to visit local sites of interest. Students not wishing to miss school can use Spring Break as a visiting time if the host school can accommodate a visit at that time.

Sacred Heart Greenwich students will wear their school uniforms to school each day. This includes their dress and PE uniforms, as needed.

While visiting sister schools, our students are expected to participate fully in classes just as they would when at home. This means actively engaging in all classroom activities, completing homework, participating in discussions, and even trying to taking quizzes!

At no point during the school day should our students ever be working on assignments for their Sacred Heart Greenwich teachers. Our teachers will coordinate to develop a sensible plan regarding missed assignments. The goal for our students is to immerse themselves in that school's experience. (NOTE: Students should work on their regular homework at night when their host is working on hers)

We expect students will act as good ambassadors for Sacred Heart Greenwich while visiting the host family and school, making sure they abide by the Network's Goals and Criteria.

## **Hosting a Student**

In most cases, this is a true exchange program as Sacred Heart Greenwich families will host a student from another Sacred Heart school. Whenever possible, we would like to arrange for that guest student to be hosted here by the family of the same Sacred Heart Greenwich student whom she hosted.

The host family will be responsible for providing all meals, transportation to/from the airport (if applicable) as well as providing the visiting student with an experience that highlights the benefits of the NYC metropolitan area.

If your family is not comfortable hosting a visitor, we can examine the possibility of finding a different host family from our community. Please contact Mr. Zwack if you have any such concerns. Additionally, there may be an option that we will be looking for only a host family if we do not have a participant interested in going to visit a school.