

So you missed our Info Session?

1. Please thoroughly examine the PowerPoint (PPT) handout:

- a. Our tour will be **8 days** long in 2019; we could leave anywhere as soon as July 4 and return anywhere as late as July 20.
- b. We'll be in Ireland for ½ and Scotland for ½, hitting the sites in Dublin, Belfast, and Edinburgh.
- c. *Rough Guide Magazine* just named Ireland the "18th most beautiful country to visit" in the world; Scotland was "1st."



2. I mentioned the following during the PPT:

- a. I have loved traveling, and it's become a bit of my life's mission.
- b. Americans, as a whole, are **consuming less goods and traveling the world more** – this is a good thing to build empathy and an understanding of our world, not just the world we inhabit in Hampden Twp. That said, Irish and Scottish are our biggest ethnic backgrounds in our area (yes, even bigger than German)
- c. Your child will get to **meet** other people from all around the world on this trip.
- d. **EF is an amazing organization.** I felt safe, satisfied, and had my eyes opened to things most tours don't get to see while in China. They were also very thoughtful. They'll do that when we're in these 2 amazing countries, too!
- e. Most of all, what I enjoyed best of my EF experience in China really wasn't the sites, **it was the group of people I got to travel with!** If you read my blog on China, you'll see how evident that is and continue to be.
- f. That said, rest assured **CV staff will be firm and fair chaperones!**
 - i. Please note, I've had more than my fair share of people who have been willing to chaperone. This being our first trip, I'm hesitant to have parents chaperone. I'm trying to restrict it solely to Good Hope teachers.
 - ii. If that changes or if we're in need for chaperones, I'll be sure to let you know.

3. Costs:

- a. If this trip seems expensive to you, most world travelers I've shared the price to told me, without prompting, "That's a steal."
- b. To support that, I research flights to all the locations and the minimum I could find was a \$2,000 flight. Adding the cost of hotels, admission to places, a knowledgeable local as a tour guide, and most meals, I don't see how the offer could be beat.
- c. The other companies whose bids I sought were \$1,000 more expensive than the bid I received through Education First (EF), the group we're using.
- d. Please note that there is a **monthly payment plan!** I highly recommend using it. If my wife goes on the trip, that's what we're going to do with her.

4. Moving forward:

- a. If you and/or your child want to travel on the trip, all Good Hope students past, present, and future as of 2019, are welcome. So are their parents.
- b. *So you want to come? Visit this webpage!* --- www.eftours.com/2027175ZE.
- c. **Sign up by Friday, September 15th and get a \$200 scholarship towards your trip.**

Questions? Send me an email – jmiller@cvschools.org

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"Dig Your Roots 2019" Tour Organizer