

German Exchange Program

Responsibilities of Students, Families and Schools

Saskatoon Public Schools Students

In Saskatoon

- The student will maintain a fully satisfactory or superior academic record, as well as suitable participation in and contribution to school life. An overall average of no less than 75 per cent is expected.
- The student will organize their timetable for a three-month absence and work ahead to complete assignments as required before traveling to Germany (for three-month exchange students only).
- The student will give high priority to their responsibilities as a host. If working part-time, participating in sports, etc., they will ensure that these activities do not interfere with their hosting responsibilities.
- The student will provide a written evaluation of the exchange after their return to Saskatoon.

In Germany

- The student will demonstrate a positive attitude and open-mindedness to new challenges and differences.
- The student will attend school regularly and make a determined effort to benefit from going to school in Germany. On one or two occasions while the student is in Germany, absence from school for a short period of time (such as a long weekend) is permissible if the student receives formal approval from both sets of parents.
- The student will be respectful of others and work cooperatively with their host family, as well as all teachers and officials in Germany.
- The student will be responsible to the host parents during their stay in Germany and will accept their authority and family rules.

SPS Families

- The family will be prepared to accept a German exchange student into their home and assume full responsibility for the student during their stay.

- The family will provide accommodation in their home, but the exchange student and their family will be responsible for incidental expenses.
- The family is responsible for obtaining a passport for their child prior to travelling to Germany, a visa for stays longer than three months (if required) and out-of-country emergency medical/accidental insurance for the entire stay abroad.
- The family will ensure that the German student attends school regularly and makes a reasonable commitment to academic study. Additional information regarding these expectations can be obtained from their child's school principal or liaison teacher.
- The family will provide suitable cultural and recreational experiences to the German student.
- Should a doctor or hospital visit be necessary for the German student resulting in an extra-billing charge, the family will pay for the service and send a copy of the invoice to the German family for reimbursement.

Schools

- Students cannot participate in this program without the approval of their school authorities. The signature of the school principal and liaison teacher are required on the application form.
- Participating schools will rank their applicants. To this end, the principal, German teacher and other teachers of the applicant will work together. This ranking will be given serious consideration in the selection process.
- Students will be in grade 10 or 11 at the time of the exchange. The school will grant credit for the student's grade 10 or 11 subjects based on work completed prior to their departure for Germany.
- The school principal will support the program in discussions with staff and parents.
- The school will provide whatever special counseling or assistance German students may require in registering for classes and adjusting to the new school.
- The school will identify a teacher — preferably a teacher of German — to be the liaison teacher. The liaison teacher agrees to:
 - Act as liaison between the exchange students, their families and the central office superintendent.
 - Ensure applications and documentation are legible and submitted on time.

- Provide opportunities for past and future participants to meet and exchange ideas.
- Work with guidance counsellors to set up suitable timetables for Saskatoon students (arrange to have the less demanding courses scheduled in the semester the student is away for the three-month exchange).
- Make sure students have completed the required work before leaving for Germany.
- Assist students and families in translating and understanding information received about the German student.
- Provide counselling and assistance to German students while they are at school.
- Ensure that German students attend classes regularly.

Saskatoon Public Schools

- Saskatoon Public Schools agrees to accept German exchange students without payment of fees.