



Parent and Student Information

JAPANESE EXCHANGE 2020

Travel to Takaoka and Kitahiroshima, Japan

Since 1990, select students of Saskatoon Public Schools have had the opportunity to host students from partner schools in Takaoka, Kitahiroshima and Hitachi, Japan, and to travel to Japan to pay a return visit. This program has been very successful for the past 29 years and will be offered again in the 2019-2020 school year.

Program

Students from our partner schools in Japan visit their partner schools Aden Bowman, Walter Murray and Evan Hardy Collegiate at pre-arranged times for 6 to 7 days each year. They are hosted by Saskatoon families and attend the respective host school.

Twenty students from Saskatoon Public Schools visit two partner sites in Japan for approximately 14 days. They live with Japanese host families and attend the school of their Japanese student host. The students will also have an approximately 5-day cultural tour (various destinations in Japan).

The trip in 2020 will involve a stay in **Takaoka** and a stay in **Kitahiroshima** plus a short cultural tour in Tokyo, Kyoto and surrounding area.

Program Objectives

- * Provide an opportunity to experience Japanese culture, not as a tourist, but through immersion in Japanese family and school life
- * Practice and improve proficiency in the Japanese language
- * Experience personal growth in social skills, independence, acceptance of cultural/personal differences, and in problem-solving

Eligibility/Selection Criteria

- * The exchange is open to **Grade 10, 11 and 12 students** (in the 2019-2020 school year).
- * Enrolment in the Japanese language program is an asset but not a requirement as all students are welcome to apply.
- * Interested students **must have good study habits and a positive attitude** towards school and receive positive comments from their teachers and school to participate in this program.
- * Must have **good health** and be physically fit to go through the 15-hour time difference and adjust to the different climate.
- * **All Students are required to take a special Japanese class** (12 lessons) on weekends starting in **November**.

Successful applicants will **miss five days of school around Easter, 2020**. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for work missed while absent from school (preferably to do the work before he/she leaves for Japan). Parents, please contact the attendance secretary of your school and have your son/daughter fill out an **Extended Leave form**.

Costs

The estimated cost for the travel to and from Japan is approximately \$4,000. This fee is based on 20 student participants and includes all travel-related costs such as transportation, cancellation and out-of-country emergency insurance, accommodations, guides and entrance fees, chaperone expenses and teacher substitute cost. **Not included in this fee are personal expenses such as spending money, passports, etc.**

The suggested amount for spending money is \$650.00 – \$750.00. The value of the Canadian dollar at the time of the trip may alter this slightly.

Program Administration

The exchange is based on arrangements between Saskatoon Public Schools and Japanese partner schools and their Boards of Education in Kitahiroshima, Takaoka and Hitachi, Japan.

The head chaperone of the group will be **Mr. Kim Strange**, Walter Murray Collegiate and the assistant chaperone will be **Ms. Joyce Glasel**, Walter Murray Collegiate.

Questions or concerns about the program are to be directed to:

Mrs. Takako Matisz

Coordinator: Japanese Exchange Program

Aden Bowman Collegiate / Walter Murray Collegiate/Evan Hardy Collegiate

Telephone: (306) 683-7600 / (306) 683-7850 / (306)683-7700

matiszt@spsd.sk.ca

Contact Teachers

The following teachers are the contact teachers for each school. If you have any questions, please ask your contact teacher.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ▪ ABCI: Mr. Stefan Scott | ▪ CCI: Mr. Glenn Patkau |
| ▪ EHCI: Ms. Denise Drake | ▪ MMGCI: Ms. Donna Bouchard |
| ▪ TDCI: Ms. Jocelyn Dupuis | ▪ WMCI: Ms. Lisa Kalesnikoff |
| ▪ BRCI: Ms. Shauna Pierce | ▪ MRCI: Ms. Jody Lerat |

APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS

Please read the instructions very carefully

1. Have a copy of both the first and the second semesters' final report cards from last year

Please go to Student Services and ask for a copy of your final report card from last year, including both the first and second semesters' marks (**with teachers' comments**, not transcripts).

2. Distribute the attached "Teacher Referral Form" to 4 different teachers

Based on the **second semester's final report card** from **last year**, distribute forms to 4 of your subject teachers. You must ask **4 different teachers** to write forms for you. If some of them have moved, retired or are on leave and are not available, please pick teacher(s) from the first semester's final report card. Teachers will submit forms directly to Student Services (confidential) so please check with them if they have submitted the forms for you. Please give teachers adequate time to complete the form before the application deadline of October 7th.

3. Fill out the online application ELECTRONICALLY

Please go to your school website and find the link to get an application form. Take your time and type carefully (**Do not complete the form in handwriting please**); then save it and print it out. Before you submit the form, please make sure you have **signatures** (both yours and your parent/guardian's) and you have included a recent photo.

Applications without photos will not be accepted.

Please submit your printed application form with a copy of each semester's report cards to Student Services at your school.

4. "Get to know each other" activity and Interview

Before the selection committee makes their final decision, we will invite eligible students to a "Get to know each other" activity sometime in the **fourth week of October**. We will contact you **through email (only)**, so please check your email regularly.

After the activity, **some** applicants may have an interview on October 28-31. You will be notified of your interview time **by phone call**.

With or without an interview, all students will be given careful consideration for the selection.

However, we regretfully may not have placements for every applicant.

All applicants will receive notification of the status of their application **by email** by

November 4th, 2019

5. Check Lists

- Have a copy of your **first** and **second** semesters' **final report cards** (with teachers' comments).
- **Type** all the necessary information on the application form and **save it**.
- **Print out** and complete the application form. Be sure you and your parent/guardians **sign the form**.
- Include your **photo** (not with your friend or family) in the designated place on the first page of the application form.
- Submit your application form (with a copy of final report cards attached) to Student Services at your school as soon as you can. Do not wait until the last minutes.
- Distribute the attached "Teacher Referral Form" to **4 different teachers** of the second semester's final report card from last year. Make sure you fill in **your name, school, teacher's name, subject** and **your mark (%)** on the forms before you distribute to your teachers.
- Check with your teachers if they have submitted the form to Student Services. **Your application will not be complete until all forms are submitted.**

◆ Application Deadline; **October 7th, 2019** ◆

Mrs. Takako Matisz
Coordinator: Japanese Exchange Program
Aden Bowman Collegiate / Walter Murray Collegiate / Evan Hardy Collegiate
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TEACHER REFERRAL FORM
JAPANESE EXCHANGE 2020

Name of Student: _____ School: _____

Subject: _____ Mark: _____ % Teacher: _____

This student has applied for the **Japanese Exchange** to Takaoka and Kitahiroshima, Japan, which will take place **around Easter 2020**.

In your experience and interaction with him/her, please complete the following to the best of your ability.

		Seldom	←————→			Always
1.	Has good attendance and punctuality.	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Completes work on time.	1	2	3	4	5
3.	Interested in learning and shows initiative.	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Able to work independently with minimal supervision.	1	2	3	4	5
5.	Able to work with many types of people.	1	2	3	4	5
6.	Demonstrates patience and tolerance.	1	2	3	4	5
7.	Is a good judge of appropriate and respectful behavior.	1	2	3	4	5
8.	Is a good example and role model for other students thinking of applying for the exchange in future years.	1	2	3	4	5

- This student is:**
- highly recommended (an excellent candidate)
 - recommended (a good candidate)
 - not recommended

Please provide a short comment.

❖ This form is **confidential**. Please return this form directly to **student services** by:

Friday, October 4th, 201