

Neah-Kah-Nie School District 56

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Tuesday, July 11, 2017

RE: Partners of the Americas Oregon-Costa Rica High School Exchange Program

Superintendent Colleagues,

When I was asked by Partners of the Americas Oregon-Costa Rica High School Exchange Program to write a letter of support, I immediately responded with a resounding, YES! Why not write a letter to support the efforts of a group of passionate and dedicated volunteer educators, students, business people, and parents, who have promoted an immensely popular international student exchange program since 1966? These volunteers are ardent about what they do and why they do it. Partners of the Americas Oregon-Costa Rica High School Exchange Program is not just an “ordinary” student exchange program. Partners is the premier student exchange program in Oregon! A program that is very economical, \$2,300, including airfare, for a two month life changing experience. Scholarships are available for low income students.

Every year, approximately twenty-five Oregon high school students attend school in Costa Rica for two months. These students come from many school district throughout Oregon including: Ontario, Bend, Portland, Grants Pass, Salem, Klamath Falls, Astoria, Hillsboro, and Neah-Kah-Nie. All these students experience a family living experience in Costa Rica. Oregon students have the opportunity to practice Spanish, attend school in a Latin American country, try new food, dance to Cumbia music, or learn how to be independent, far away from mom and dad.

Partners of the Americas Oregon-Costa Rica High School Exchange Program not only sends students to Costa Rica, but Costa Rican high school students attend Oregon high schools for two four-week sessions during December and January to share their culture, language, dance, music, interests, and aspirations with Oregon students and families.

If you would like additional information about Partners of the Americas Oregon-Costa Rica High School Exchange Program, please go to www.partnersorcr.com/about-the-program/ or contact me at the Neah-Kah-Nie School District.

Thank you,

Paul Erlebach, Superintendent
Neah-Kah-Nie School District
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