

SPRING BREAK 2018 EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

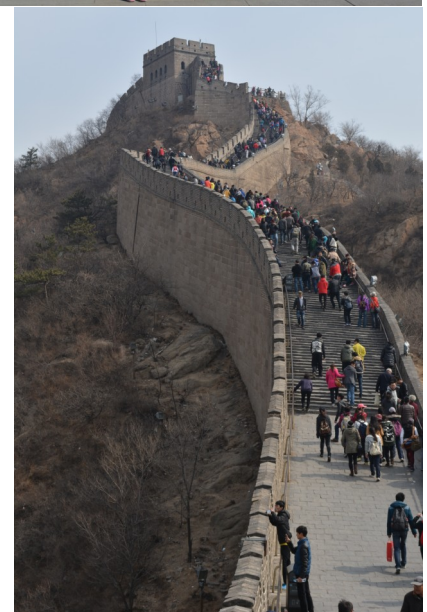
Progressive Academy has been involved in partnerships with a number of schools in China since 2013. While each partnership is different, one of the goals is to provide opportunities for student exchanges. The first such exchange happened in March 2016. The second is planned for Spring Break of 2018

The trip will tentatively include:

- Several days spent in activities at HESA—BJIE, a public elementary school in Beijing
- Tours to famous historical sites in Beijing, Xi'an and Guangzhou. This will include the Forbidden City, The Great Wall, The Terra Cotta Warriors, and more.
- Cultural experiences such as a Tea Ceremony, Local Cuisine, Shopping in traditional and modern markets, Dance, Music & Martial Arts Shows.
- A one-day visit to Xuanhua Fourth Middle (High) School in Zhangjiakou City, co-host city of the 2022 Winter Olympics.
- Several days hosted by the Canadian International School (CIEO) in Guangzhou. Homestay options will be available at CIEO.
- A day and a half exploring Hong Kong before our return to Edmonton
- Potential Dates: March 23 to April 5, 2018
- Anticipated Cost: \$3300 per participant. Based on double occupancy. Includes all transportation, most meals, and most attractions.
- Open to all elementary and junior high students. If students are in grade 6 and lower, at least one parent or adult guardian is required to travel with them.

FAQ's

Why China? China is rapidly becoming one of our major trading partners, yet our education system does not adequately familiarize students with the history, culture and language of China. Progressive Academy hopes that our school partnerships will help students to learn about China and develop an interest that will guide their future educational choices. China's major cities are modern, safe, and rich in culture and



history, making them the ideal place for first time visitors to China. HESA-BJIE, Xuanhua Fourth Middle School and CIEO are most interested in hosting our students and in turn, sending groups of students to visit us.

Who will chaperone the trip? Progressive Academy, will have a minimum of two teacher chaperones, one male and one female. Mr. Eifert will be the tour organizer and male chaperone. A female chaperone is yet to be determined.

What activities will students engage in at the schools they visit? Students will have an opportunity to observe classes, share songs and art activities with their hosts, participate in art, physical education classes, and possibly attend a special classes in calligraphy or speaking Chinese.

Are there costs over and above the trip costs? The trip cost will cover the cost of travel, accommodations and most meals. Students will need money for meals on travel days as well as souvenirs and personal spending money for snacks and beverages. All participants must have a passport valid for six months beyond our planned date of exit from China and a visitor visa. Students who travelled to China in 2016 might still have valid visa's.

How can students communicate with home during their time in China? The simplest way is to have students bring either smart phones or tablets with communication apps such as WeChat, Face-time, or Skype. We will have wireless capability at the hotel and possibly at the school. Many mobile carriers also sell limited roaming and data plans that will allow international texting and voice calls. Facebook and Google Applications, including G-mail, are generally not available in China. China is 14 hours ahead of Edmonton, which means that in the early morning, students can reach you during your afternoon time and prior to bedtime. They can reach you as you are beginning your day.

Can Parents and Family Members Come? We will first open the trip to students and Parents of Progressive Academy. Should there be available space, we would open up the event to other family members.

What insurance is required for this trip? Progressive Academy carries liability coverage for student travel. Individual participants will be required to show proof of international medical insurance as well as trip cancellation & interruption coverage. Plans are available from banks and credit unions. Many company benefit plans will include suitable coverage and many credit cards companies include various levels of coverage.

How Do I Sign-up for this Opportunity? Send an E-mail to Principal David Eifert indicating your interest and also indicating how many students & adults from your family would likely be attending. Once we know there is sufficient interest, an information meeting will be held.

For More Information, Contact:

David Eifert, Principal

Progressive Academy

780.868.5213

david@progressiveacademy.ca

