

**Subject:** Re: School Bus

**From:** Liz Margolis <margolis@aaps.k12.mi.us>

**Date:** Wed, 12 Oct 2005 10:23:26 -0400

**To:** Kyung-Hee Kim <kkim7@emich.edu>

**CC:** scarnecc@aaps.k12.mi.us

Dear Dr. Kim,

Ms. Scarnecchia has given me your proposal. I think it is a wonderful idea but I am still investigating the bus situation. With the high prices of fuel, many of our field trip fees have gone up and we have restricted service for groups outside the district. I will get back with you this week with a confirmation.

Liz Margolis

On Oct 11, 2005, at 10:28 PM, Kyung-Hee Kim wrote:

Dear Liz Margolis,

Mrs. Scarnecchia said that she was working with you about coordinating busses for the Korean Educators' visit soon. They are coming to study creativity in American education and have, in the past, enjoyed riding in American school busses as part of their tour. I am trying to arrange a three-day visit through the Ann Arbor school district and was hoping you could help provide transportation. My work number is listed below, and my home number is 734-434-8594. Feel free to call or email me.

I am including more detailed information, including the proposed schedule,

below my contact information.

Thank you for working with me so that they can see the best in American education!!

Sincerely,

Kyung-Hee Kim, Ph.D.  
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**CHANGE IN KOREAN EDUCATION:**

The Korean educators are visiting America because, recently, fostering creativity in gifted students has come to the forefront as an important element in the future of Korea's economic prosperity in the global economy. The Korean government passed a gifted education act in April of 2002 that initiated gifted education programs in elementary, middle, and high schools in Korea. Korean gifted education has focused primarily in the areas of mathematics and science. The mathematics and science education departments are highly interested in

creativity because ingenuity in these fields is tied to fiscal prosperity and competition within the global economy. Because of this shift in focus, many educators have come to the United States for training in creative education.

**KYUNG HEE KIM, PHD & KOREAN EDUCATION TRAININGS:**

I am an assistant professor in the Department of Teacher Education at Eastern Michigan University. Before I taught at EMU, I had been the international program coordinator for the Torrance Center for Creativity and Talent Development at the University of Georgia. As International Coordinator, I organized training programs both in Georgia and abroad. In the future, I hope to arrange for school visits, professional trainings, and local tours, but because I am new to the area, I am still learning about local resources. The upcoming visit will be a good starting point for future trainings.

If you could make a schedule for the school visit based on your school's schedule, it would be greatly appreciated. In addition, if you could provide information sheets for them so that they can understand your school curriculum better, it would also be most helpful.

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE:**

Tuesday, November 1, 2005  
Mitchell Elementary School

Wednesday, November 2, 2005  
Scarlett Middle School

Thursday, November 3, 2005  
Huron High School

A general schedule might be as follows:

Greetings with the principle and/or assistant principle

Class observation 1

Class observation 2

Class observation 3

Class observation 4

Lunch at the Cafeteria

Class observation 5

Class observation 6

Class observation 7

Time for Questions & Looking around the school

**THE GROUP:**

We will have 2 translators and 26 Korean Educators at the tours, so they can split into two groups of 14. One group of 28 would be too large and overwhelming for classroom observations.

**CLASSROOM OBSERVATIONS:**

First, we would like to do a classroom observation; preferably of a creative, hands-on, project-oriented teaching; not just lecture, reading, or writing. The incorporation of product-driven instruction that encourages the development of problem-solving skills and higher

order thinking is one of the things that distinguishes American education.

**LUNCH:**

After the classroom observations, we can bring the two groups back together for lunch. We would be honored if we could eat in your cafeteria, preferably at a time that is convenient to your school's schedule, so that the Korean educators could see what is available to American students. Of course, the training group will pay for the lunch. After lunch, we can observe more classrooms.

**Q & A:**

After the classroom observations, we would like to arrange a 30 -minute question-and-answer time for the large group about your schools specifically, and American school systems in general; followed by a 30-minute tour of the school. We would leave the school when it suits your daily schedule.

**BUSSES:**

When we have done this before, the GA school districts have arranged for us to use their school busses for the visits, and we paid for tips for the drivers. The training group will stay in a hotel in Ann Arbor, so the school busses will not have far to go each time. If you cannot arrange for buses, please let me know a recommendation so that I can get transportation lined up.

**From:** Kathy Scarnecchia <scarnecc@aaps.k12.mi.us>

**Date:** October 11, 2005 7:56:40 AM EDT

**To:** Kyung-Hee Kim <kkim7@emich.edu>

**Subject: Re: School Bus**

Hello Dr. Kim-I have not had approval for the bus yet. The district contact is Liz Margolis. Her e-mail is margolis@aaps.k12.mi.us. She was going to get back to me this week. Also, have you been successful making contact at Scarlett and Huron? Please keep me posted and i will let you know as soon as I hear from her. I think it would be a good idea for you to e-mail her as well.

The MEAPs seem to be going well but, you know how that is! I will be in touch soon.  
On Oct 11, 2005, at 6:32 AM, Kyung-Hee Kim wrote:

I hope everything is going well with the MEAP test in your and my son's school.

I am wondering about the bus arrangement. Could you give me the contact information so that I can talk about the details with the right person?

Thank you so much for working with us.

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