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Contact: Erica Shekell, **Byrum & Fisk Communications**, (517) 333-1606

Fitzgerald High School Students to Embark on Study Tour of China and Tibet March 24 – April 6

WARREN, Mich. — **Fitzgerald High School** students are embarking on a two-week study tour of China and Tibet March 24 – April 6. Five students and two adult chaperones are participating in the trip, which is organized by the Macomb Cultural and Economic Partnership. The students leave via bus for the Detroit Metro Airport on March 24 at 1:30 p.m. from the high school.

“We recognize China as a country with growing influence, and students who participate in our China study tour are ahead of the curve and have a leg up when applying to colleges that are looking for well-rounded students,” said **Barbara VanSweden**, superintendent of Fitzgerald Public Schools. “The China study tour offered by Fitzgerald Schools provides the opportunity for students to expand their horizons.”

The trip includes visits to a working Buddhist temple, a silk factory, art and history museums and one of the last traditional Chinese houses in Shanghai.

The students and adults will also visit Fitzgerald Public Schools’ partner district, which is located in Jiading, a suburb of Shanghai. The partnership was established by VanSweden in 2011. The students will live with Chinese families and attend several days of school with the students.

From there, the students fly to Lhasa, Tibet, where they will visit the Potala Palace — the highest castle-style architectural complex above sea level — which was the residence of the Tibetan Dalai Lamas and the political, educational and religious center of Tibet. They will also see temples, statues, murals, monasteries and other places of cultural significance.

“Fitzgerald Public Schools prides itself in having a personable, small-community feel and celebrates the diversity of the families in the district, which provide opportunities for cross-cultural learning that will prepare students for an increasingly globalized world,” VanSweden said. “Our China study tour is one of many cross-cultural learning opportunities that are available through Fitzgerald Public Schools.”

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