INDEPENDENCE
MISSOURI
A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

Japanese Sister City Committee Minutes

December 30, 2025 6:00 PM

https://teams.live.com/meet/9340514050895?p=vw2IOl4Er0PfvjEu

I. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

I. **Roll Call/Call to Order**
   A. **Attendance**
      1. Chad Whisenhunt
      2. Danijela Book
      3. Dustin Henrich
      4. Cassy Pallo
      5. Laura Seigfreid
      6. Katie Gall

II. DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE COST OF THE CULTURE AND LANGUAGE COURSE FOR 2026 STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

I. **Discuss and vote on the cost of the culture and language course for the 2026 student exchange program**

A. TRACIE'S PROGRAM: A PRIMARY PROGRAM WITH A STRONG FOCUS ON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE. THE COST IS $750.

A. Tracie's Program: A primary program with a strong focus on language and culture. The cost is $750.

B. SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM: LED BY MIHO KAWASHITA FROM THE JAPAN OUTREACH INITIATIVE (HTTPS://WWW.LAURASIAN.ORG/JOI-COORDINATORS). THIS PROGRAM IS FREE AND WILL COMPLEMENT TRACIE'S INSTRUCTION BY PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO PRACTICE IN A SEPARATE LESSON.

A. Supplementary Program: Led by Miho Kawashita from the Japan Outreach Initiative (https://www.laurasian.org/joi-coordinators). This program is free and will complement Tracie's instruction by providing students with additional opportunities to practice in a separate lesson.
B. ***Cassy moved to approve the expenditure of $750 for Japanese Language and Culture classes through Tracie Whiting Kipper for the 2026 delegation. Chad seconded and all in attendance showed approval with a show of hands.***

III. ADJOURN

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 14th 2026

I. **Adjourn**

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 14th 2026