Cross-cultural Activities - J-1 Visiting Teacher Program

With the new regulations, effective February 29, 2016, teachers participating in a J-1 exchange teacher program must complete and report on cross-cultural activities as a part of their cultural exchange program.

(h) *Cross-cultural activity component.*

Each exchange teacher must complete, within the United States, and during each academic year of program participation, at least one cross-cultural activity from each of the following two categories:

(i) An activity for the teacher's classroom, larger host school or host school district population, or the community at large designed to give an overview of the history, traditions, heritage, culture, economy, educational system and/or other attributes of his or her home country.

Exchange teachers placed at international schools must conduct at least one cross-cultural activity per academic year outside the host school in nearby schools or communities where international opportunities may be more limited than those found in their host school; and

(ii) An activity that involves U.S. student dialogue with schools or students in another country, preferably in the exchange teacher's home school, through virtual exchange or other means, in order to supplement the goals of the in-person exchange.

(2) Exchange teachers must produce annual reports detailing the cross-cultural activity component of their exchange program. The annual cross-cultural activity report must include: the teacher's full name, the Indiana Department of Education's name, the Cordell Hull Foundation's name, and the following information about each of the two activities:
(i) The date(s) of each activity;
(ii) The location of each activity;
(iii) The audience for and participants in each activity;
(iv) A general overview of each activity, including the topic; and
(v) The estimated impact of each activity.

The report for visiting teachers in Indiana should be submitted by June 30, 2016 via e-mail to Jill Woerner, Global Learning and World Languages Specialist at jwoerner@doe.in.gov.