

GOLDEN RULES OF HOSTING

- **Treat your host student like your own child** and, when in doubt, make all decisions based on this principle. The Austrian students are instructed to follow your family's rules – it's up to you to tell them what they are.
- **Speak English at all times** and try to engage your Austrian student in conversations – don't be discouraged if they are shy in the beginning.
- **Drop-offs and pick-ups from and to school have to be on time and reliable.** Always check your Calendar **and** communicate with your host student.
- Each Austrian kid needs a **separate bed**, no-coed bedrooms, no sleeping in living rooms etc.
- Each Austrian kid needs **some private space in a closet and some drawers**, and a desk space (they should not have to live out of their suitcases). Please prepare their sleeping and living quarters before they arrive.
- The Austrian students have to receive **three meals a day** – if they have to fix their own breakfast or lunch bag, show them how and where (if they prefer to buy lunch at school, they will have to pay – but let them know in advance, please!). If you decide to all go out for dinner, you will have to pay for them too.
- If you go to the movies, to amusement parks, for snacks in between, etc., the Austrians are prepared to pay their own way. Make sure they know ahead of time how much it will cost, so they can decide if they want to go.
- A joint trip to the supermarket is always a good idea. It helps them get familiar with local food and they can tell you what they like and will eat. Pizza and pasta are always popular...
- On school days, the **Austrian students will follow their host brothers and sisters to classes**, except the excursion days during the week where the Austrians will go sightseeing as a group (Austrians only). **Host parents have to know the whereabouts of their host students at all times.**
- Talk to your host students about **using the phone in your house**. Will they be allowed to use your phone? For local calls? Will you be able to show them how to make a phone call with a credit card, or an operator assisted call which will tell you exactly how much the call cost? Can you help them buy a telephone card?
- In medical emergencies, please **call the group coordinators, Sabine Huemer cell ph (310) 245-6041 or Bill Meis ph (310) 418-831 and take the Austrian student to your doctor or emergency room**. They have insurance and will either pay directly at the doctor's office or we will make sure that the hospital has the necessary insurance information to bill the Austrian insurance directly.

Thank you for opening your home up to an Austrian Host student. We hope that this will be a rewarding experience for you and your family!