

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. Of course, the Austrians have to adhere to common laws, such as **no alcohol** (violations will be punished with an early departure to Austria). Even if your Austrian has a drivers license, **we do not allow them to drive in the US**.
- For medical emergencies, please **call 911, then the group coordinators, Sabine Huemer cell ph (310) 245-6041 or Bill Meis ph (310) 418-6831 and take the Austrian student to the emergency room**. We will meet you there. They have insurance we will make sure that the hospital has the necessary insurance information to bill the Austrian insurance directly. Should your Austrian feel sick but it is not an emergency, call us and we will plan what to do.
- On school days, the **Austrian students will follow their host brothers and sisters to classes**, except on the excursion days marked on the Calendar. Please let us know if your Austrian will not be at school for whatever reason. **Also, call us immediately if your Austrian breaks this rule** (again, they have to be with their host brothers and sister and not roaming around campus!).
- **Speak English at all times** when the Austrian student is around.....
- **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.
- The Austrian needs a **separate bed**, no-coed bedrooms, no sleeping in living rooms etc. They also need **some private space in a closet and some drawers**, (they should not have to live out of their suitcases) and access to a desk and possibly a computer/email to check in with their parents at home. Please prepare their sleeping and living quarters before they arrive, so they feel welcome.
- The Austrian student has to receive **three meals a day** – if they have to fix their own breakfast or lunch bag, show them how and where. (If you decide to all go out for dinner, you will have to pay for them too. 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.
- If you go to the movies, to amusement parks, for snacks in between, etc., the Austrians are prepared to pay their own way. Let them know how much it will cost in advance. If your Austrian runs out of money, call us but **do not lend them money** (their teachers will be able to do that, it's less complicated...)
- Talk to your host students about **using the phone in your house**. Will they be allowed to use your phone? For local calls? Most Austrians will send emails home, some of them will bring their own cell phones (but service is prohibitively expensive, so they will use their phone for emergencies and texting only).

THANK YOU FOR HOSTING AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!