

Dear Parents and Students,

For the past three years we have had the pleasure of hosting French students in April. These students live with our Mercy families while attending classes with their "host sister." The girls are 15-16 years old, have studied English and speak it well enough to converse easily with everyone and attend classes. They are very eager to experience American family and school life. Students who want to be hosts do not need to be enrolled in French or speak French.

Host families are asked to provide a separate bed, not necessarily a separate bedroom for the student. Students expect to share in the family chores and pay their own expenses such as movie tickets, entrance fees to events, etc.

Insurance liability is taken care of by the program FACES which organizes this trip. FACES is a long established entity. The accompanying teachers are housed locally and are in touch with students and host families for any needs or issues that may arise. Notre Dame Belmont and other schools on the Peninsula have hosted FACE students as well. The website is <http://www.faces1.com>. Mercy has always had a positive experience hosting the French students.

It has always been a rewarding experience on both ends and some students have maintained a friendship over the years.

Profiles of students are provided so as to match as closely as possible interests of the host sister and family. This year's group is coming from the Paris region and Bordeaux.

Arrival date is April 10 and departure is April 24. Students are picked up at a local hotel near SFO or another point on the Peninsula.

If you are interested, please contact me and I will supply you with a host application and profiles of the students.

Looking forward to another culturally enriching year,

Liz Barthe