

5321 E.136<sup>th</sup> Ave Thornton, Colorado 80602 (720) 972-4400

**Erica Fleeman** 

**Principal** 

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your son or daughter has expressed interest in participating in our <u>German American Partnership Program</u> (GAPP) with the Friedrich-Rückert-Gymnasium this year. GAPP is a short-term exchange program that pairs secondary schools between the US and Germany. Horizon HS students, teachers, and families have participated in the GAPP exchange since 2009.

At the beginning of next school year we will have 23 students from the <u>Friedrich-Rückert Gymnasium in Ebern</u>, Germany attending HHS for the first half of the exchange program. These students will arrive September 18th and stay for two and a half weeks. Two teachers will accompany the students from the Friedrich-Rückert Gymnasium (Stefan Fenzl and Bettina Natterer).

We are currently looking for a few more HHS students and their families to host our guests from Germany. The students will attend Horizon High School while they are here and be with their host families on the weekends. We will also plan a couple large group events during their stay.

Why should you consider hosting a student?

- There is virtually no cost involved. We simply ask that you provide free room and board during the two and a half weeks. The exchange student will simply come to school each day with your son or daughter.
- You and your family will have the opportunity to learn about another culture and to introduce our guests to what real, everyday life is like in Colorado.
- These students have studied English and other languages for at least five years. They are here to improve their English in an immersion setting. (You don't need to speak German.)
- Your son or daughter will have the opportunity to participate in our group outings and meet and interact with lots of other exchange students.
- Your family will also have the opportunity to meet and interact with other HHS parents and community members, in addition to all of the exchange students.
- Families and students who participate in the GAPProgram frequently develop friendships that last a lifetime.
- Students who complete at least a year of German at HHS are also eligible to participate in the second half of the exchange program in the summer of 2025!
- It's a lot of fun!!! ©

If you are interested in hosting one of our students and/or traveling to Germany with our group in summer 2025, please let me know as soon as possible. Please also take a look at the <u>GAPP brochure</u> that outlines the entire program. Feel free to call or email with any questions or concerns you might have.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen.

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