Meeting Minutes
Final Pre-Departure GAPP Meeting
Monday, April 22, 2013

Attendance:

All GAPP Families represented

Royal Event:
Frau Timmermann went over the sign up for Schaumtorte making on Saturday, May 18th and solicited more mixers to make the desserts.

Itinerary – Bright Yellow Sheet

Frau Timmermann distributed the updated itinerary sheet with flight information, youth hostel and contact information for the school in Landshut and the GAPP coordinators. Frau Timmermann advised hanging this on the refrigerator for handy reference.

**Departure Day**Father Altman will be in Poland the day of GAPP’s departure and will have another priest covering for him at his parish. Because of this the families decided that each family would attend his/her own parish that weekend and ask for a special prayer or blessing.

**All students should be at AHS by 11:30 a.m. All must wear the GAPP T-shirt.**

*Ribbons for Luggage*Mrs. Preuss volunteered to get ribbons to tie around all checked luggage to make identification simple and quick.

*Packing Items*
 Frau Timmermann went over items for the carry-on luggage, e.g. medications, snacks, entertainment items. Frau Timmermann advised that students may wear sweat pants over shorts for the flight, should wear their tennis shoes, and have a sweatshirt or light jacket to stay warm in the plane. Frau Timmermann also shared some packing tips from Travel Guard.

Frau Timmermann reminded families about the restriction to one piece of luggage not weighing more than 50 lbs. Participants were also reminded to avoid packing skimpy /revealing tops and shorts, as well as items advertising the USA or the American flag.. Frau Timmermann reminded the group about the need for sturdy walking shoes, flip flops for the youth hostels only, and a hooded light weight water resistant jacket for the rainy days. To reduce weight and increase space students should only bring ravel sizes of personal care items, e.g. deodorant, shampoo and soap are recommended. Larger sizes can be purchased in Germany. Students also should check their electronic devices for 220 compatibility, have an extra memory card for their cameras, and have their presentation on a USB stick.

**Return Day**

Mrs. Stashek will take a cooler of bottled water to Lamers on our arrival day for the travelers to have for the return bus ride.

*Phone Tree Activation:*

Frau Timmermann distributed the most up-to-date phone list(salmon colored). She shared with the families that she will activate the phone tree after the group has completed their stop at the Belvidere Oasis. This will give them the most accurate arrival time, which is estimated at just before midnight on Friday, July 12th.

**GAPP Participation Criteria**

Frau Timmermann reviewed the criteria for participating in GAPP, which each family and participant signed and agreed to, e.g ., eligibility, German grade requirement and financial obligations to tuition and hot lunch accounts. She also reminded families that several students still need a physical prior to travelling.

Frau Timmermann also shared with families the change made to the portfolio and the reflection paper, which now includes a section on the joint theme required by the Goethe Institut. The GAPP theme for our trip is Comparing Green Practices. Students will need to identify and then compare green practices in their host family homes, at school and in the community.

*Forms:*

Frau Timmermann detailed the behavior expectations and the behavior contract, which each student is expected to adhere to while on the trip. Consequences for violations range from verbal warnings for minor offenses to the student being sent home at the parents’ expense for severe offenses. Each student and family agreed in writing to meet the behavior expectations. Other forms which were distributed and signed were the Diocesan Field Trip Form, Medical Power of Attorney, Credit Card and Return Trip Deviation Form (TerMaat family only).

Frau Timmermann thanked everyone for their attendance at all the meetings over the past two years and expressed her gratitude to the families for giving their sons and daughters such a wonderful opportunity.