

Here is a list of the previous questions asked at the 2018 and 2019 Freshman/New Student Parent Panel & Q&A Session.

Welcome to Mira Costa! We promise it will be a great year for your student!

NOTE: HIGHLIGHTED ITEMS ARE NOT CURRENTLY RELEVANT DUE TO COVID-19

Q: How do I put money on my child's lunch account?

A: Please log on to www.myschoolbucks.com and follow the instructions to set up an account or re-load the account. They can use these funds to buy lunch in the cafeteria, the cards or the "Surf Shack". This money cannot be used to items in the student store.

Q: Does Costa have any recommendations on what device to bring to school? Laptops, iPads, etc. Mac versus PC?

A: This is an individual decision. Mira Costa cannot require a student to have any/all devices. If your student is more comfortable being a handwritten note-taker, then he/she or can continue to take notes in that way. If they are more comfortable taking notes on a computer, then they can do so as well. There is no requirement for a device at school – it is up to the student to determine the way they are most able to learn and what they are comfortable with.

Q: Where can I drop off and pick up my child?

A: There are truly 3 places in which your student can enter and exit the school grounds – Artesia Blvd, in front of the administration building, Meadows Avenue, by the new West Fields and Peck Avenue, either in the student lot (corner of Peck & Artesia), the staff lot turn-around, on the side of the math & science building or on Peck at the entrance to Stadium Way.

Q: Where can a parent park should you need to be at school?

A: A parent can park in the Administration lot in front of the Administration Bldg. in the spaces marked VISITORS. There are approximately 10 spots there. If those are all filled, you can park on Artesia Blvd. in front of school or on the streets surrounding campus. Please make sure you read the street signs for street cleaning.

Q: What is the MINIMUM DAY dismissal time?

A: There are a few different dismissal times for minimum days – all will be posted on the Mira Costa website – all bell schedules for all days including minimum days will be posted. www.miracostahigh.org.

Q: Is the library open after school and for how long?

A: Yes! The library is open Monday through Thursday until 5pm, thanks to the PTSA. In addition, there is always a teacher in there for extra help along with some CSF tutors should your student need any tutoring in any specific subject.

Q: My child's locker is not working? What do I do?

A: If after you have tried the locker a few times and cannot get it to work, please go to the front office and report the locker number. They will send Maintenance & Operations out to the locker to help you open it. If it is still non-functioning, we will call a locksmith out to fix that locker.

Q: Activities and Clubs?

A: There are hundreds of amazing clubs and activities at Mira Costa. We would encourage all students to become involved with a club. There is truly something for everyone! And, if you have an idea for a new club and it currently does not exist, you are able to start it on your own --- you will just need a staff member to be your advisor! Your student will find out about what Mira Costa has to offer at Club Day – dates to come!

Q: Where can my child sign up for the PSAT?

A: The PSAT is open to Sophomores and Juniors and the information is currently on the Mira Costa website at www.miracostahigh.org.

Q: We registered, but did not get the email on how to make changes to the schedule – what to do?

A: Please make sure that your student has his/her mbusd.google.apps email - -this is where the schedule change information lives – there is an email that came to that email address which also included a schedule change form. This form needs to be filled out and send back in via the email. The counselors will get to each and every email, yet they are attending to those who are the most “critical” – those students who were not given a 4th period or who have two first periods, etc.

Q: Are there any academic classes offered during zero or 6th period?

A: There are academic classes taught during zero period as many students do take a zero period. If you are in a sport and want to take a language and 2 electives, your students schedule will have a 0-6 – the sport being the 6th period – you will have 7 classes in a given year.

Q: For those who work, are there any opportunities to be involved in the school?

A: YES!!!!!!!!!!!!!! There are many things you can do – whether it be a “from home” volunteer opportunity or there are some events at night which need volunteers for. There is a volunteer form that lives under the PTSA tab on www.miracostahigh.org that you can fill out and send in –

Q: Are there school coordinated study groups for any classes or academic programs?

A: There are many classes at Mira Costa who engage in group projects as well as study groups. Many students also do create their own study groups and get together either after school or during office hours on campus.

Q: How accurate is the Aeries Parent Portal in terms of attendance and test scores? How soon are the test scores being recorded in the portal?

A: The Aeries Parent Portal is accurate. As far as how quickly test scores are recorded is up to the individual teacher. Most are pretty quick. Some record the scores into Canvas and then they transfer to Aeries, yet for the most part, the Aeries portal is up to date and accurate. As it now is the 2nd year into our Aeries transition, the staff is much more comfortable with the portal and it just keeps getting better and better.

Q: Where is the calm room located?

A: In the Health Office. For those who don't know what the calm room is, this is a room located in the Health office that kids can visit when they need a bit of “down time”. If they are feeling stressed out or overwhelmed, they can come, sit in a quiet, comfortable room, that is very soothing.

Q: Can a student have a part time job while they are at Mira Costa?

A: The answer is yes, but that is a personal decision – you know your child better than all, so if they are able to work while they are at Costa, it can be done!

Q: What is the ETA on the new gym?

A: The goal is to have the new Athletic Complex completed by November 2020.

Q: Is this is same meeting as the Fall Freshman Parent Meeting in September?

A: NO! That meeting date will be announced soon. The Fall Freshman Parent Meeting is extremely helpful is learning more about the 4 year planning process for your student.

Q: Where is the student bike parking?

A: There are bike racks located outside the administration building and outside the auditorium. It is very safe ad security it stationed outside those locations throughout the day. Please, however, make sure that the bike is locked with a secure lock, and locked to the rack.

Q: What is InfoSnap registration?

A: This is a very old term that was used for registration purposes and is no longer used.

Q: How to Use the Aeries App?

A: Each student and parent is provided an Aeries login. There is a desktop version of Aeries as well as the App. Aeries is used as Student Data and Information software. All of your students' classes, current grades and historical transcripts live within Aeries. It is quite a useful tool to use. Mira Costa also uses Aeries for all emergency information in case they need to reach parents/guardians or those family members or friends who are identified as emergency contacts. Please make sure that you have login information (username/password) – the same is used for both the app and the full site. If you need to have your login information or your students login information reset, please come into the office.

Q: Will students be given a list of school supply requirements?

A: Yes and no! Most teachers will let the students know what is required or their class if its anything out of the standard school supply. Yet, if your student has a way of organizing their school work, and that has worked for them in the past, they should continue working in that way. For example, if your student has been very comfortable using a spiral notebook and a folder for each class, then they should continue with that process unless the teacher specifies something different. Some teachers will ask students to use a 3 ring binder and some will require a graphing calculator or graph paper. Hence, purchase the supplies that enable you to be the most organized and anything additional they might require.

Q: Does my child need PE clothes?

A: If your child is taking non-athletic PE, meaning, regular PE, they are required to wear “gym clothes” (shorts, a t-shirt and proper footwear). They can, if they would like, purchase PE clothes from the student store. If they choose not to purchase any Mira Costa gym clothes, they may wear their own clothing.

Q: Where does my child change for PE?

A: There is a temporary locker room while the gym is under construction in Rooms 64 and 66.

Q: What comes as part of the ASB package?

You were able to purchase the ASB package until 7/31 for \$150. This includes: an ASB marker, yearbook, planner, Stampede t-shirt and a class colors spirit shirt. PE Clothes are not included in the ASB package. All available at the student store. Currently this package is available for purchase at:

Cost: \$