

What Every Freshman Should Know

Written by the Student Link Leaders of 2019-20

Welcome New Mustang! We are so excited that you are here. We still remember our first day of high school, and now that we are juniors and seniors, we'd like to share our wisdom with you. Here are the things, in no particular order, you should know to be successful at Mira Costa. Enjoy!

- **Step out of your comfort zone!** Meet new people, try new things. High school is a great time for investigating who you are and what you're passionate about.
- **Make connections!** With your teachers, with your classmates, with your counselor. There are over 2,600 people at Costa; there's a 100% chance you'll make a connection. Don't be afraid to form meaningful relationships.
- **Embrace school spirit!** You're here for 4 years. Check out that game, watch that performance, join that club, attend that dance. Have fun and make memories.
- **Take school seriously!** Study, avoid procrastination, utilize offered extra credit, try your hardest, stay organized. It may be hard, but it'll be worth it.
- **Follow your passion!** Take classes YOU care about, find clubs YOU enjoy. High school is YOUR time to explore, develop, and strengthen your interest(s).
- **It's okay to make mistakes!** You may get lost, you may drop the ball somewhere, you may falter at times. That's life; we've all done it. Link Crew is here to help you get back up and move forward.
- **Respect goes a long way!** From the adults on campus to your peers in class—treat others with kindness and respect; you're more likely to get it back in return. And don't forget about the campus; PLEASE pick up after yourself!
- **Don't forget your personal items!** Some of our favorite suggestions: charger, ear phones, gadgets, ID, cash, gum. Trust us, you're going to want these things.
- **Stay organized!** Keep your usernames, passwords, student ID, schedule and locker code somewhere easy to find. We suggest a pic on your phone.
- **Maximize your time!** Ask questions, visit your counselor, reach out to your Link Leaders, use Office Hours wisely. This will lead to more meaningful experiences.
- **Make smart choices!** Get sleep, eat breakfast, don't overload your schedule, surround yourself with positive people, be careful what you post. Your physical, mental, and emotional health is important.
- **Stay informed!** Check the school calendar, follow campus social media accounts, listen during the daily bulletin, check your school email, exchange numbers with classmates in case you're absent.
- **Utilize your Link Leaders!** We're here because we care and genuinely want to help. When we invite you to something, please come!
- **Be yourself.** Everyone else is taken. No matter who you are, there **IS** a place for you at Costa.

The next 4 years will fly by, so take our advice to heart now.
Looking forward to an amazing year!

Love, Your Link Leaders