



Vestal Central School District

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Media Advisory

October 16, 2023

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Vestal High School students to host French-Exchange students

Vestal High School is pleased to host the first French Exchange in four years! From October 22 – 29, 2023, Vestal students in the high school's French-language program and their families will host 17 students from Lycée St Riquier school in Amiens, France.

The students will arrive in New York City and spend a few days in the Big Apple before being welcomed by their Vestal HS hosts with a breakfast on Monday, October 23. They will enjoy a typical week of school with their American peers, along with some special activities. After school on October 23, they will tie-dye T-shirts, and a French Club meeting after school on Wednesday, October 25, will give our French students an opportunity to taste-test some American cuisine.

Vestal High School students have participated in a French Exchange for over 40 years! After this opportunity to share American culture, cuisine and customs with their French guests, Vestal High School students look forward to completing the exchange in the Spring. They will travel to Amiens, France, in March 2024 to stay with the students they have hosted. They also plan to spend a week exploring Normandy in Northern France, and then visiting Paris. They look forward to immersing themselves in the French language, as well as learning about the historical and cultural significance of the areas they will visit.

Other Details: Amiens is about 75 miles north of Paris... The visiting French students are in Grade 9... They arrive with two of their teachers, who will be hosted by VHS French teacher Elizabeth Ait Oumessaoud and VHS Spanish teacher Alejandra Baldwin.

About Amiens: Amiens is a city in northern France, divided by the Somme river. It's known for the Gothic Amiens Cathedral and nearby medieval belfry. Shops and cafes line the Quartier St.-Leu's narrow streets. Floating market gardens ("hortillonnages") dot the city's canals. The Musée de Picardie shows art and antiquities spanning centuries. Nearby, the Maison de Jules Verne is a museum where the science fiction author once lived. (Source – Google)

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