



# Sierra Junior High School



## 6th grade Information Night Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. Sierra Vista is so big, will I have a difficult time finding my classes?**

*Every binder reminder includes map of the campus. Students will be surprised how quickly they learn their way around. Campus supervisors, counselors, and administrators are always around to help guide students.*

### **2. Will it be difficult to make new friends at Sierra Vista?**

*Junior high school is a significant time of physical, intellectual, and social growth. Sierra Vista provides a safe place for making new friends, and we find that our team structure helps students get to know their classmates quickly. Clubs and electives also help students identify classmates with similar interests.*

### **3. How do teams work? What team will I be on?**

*A "team" is a group of around 150 students that share core academic teachers. Students that are on the same team all have the same English, Social Studies, Science, and Math teachers. Each student is placed on a team per grade randomly by the computer. We are not able to take requests or place friends together. Students generally make friends quickly on their team, and visit with other friends easily during brunch and lunch.*

### **4. What is a Rotating Schedule?**

*A rotating schedule is a schedule that changes daily. The first class of the day is different on each day of week. The class on their schedule corresponds with the day of the week. (i.e. Monday starts with the first class on their schedule, Tuesday starts with the second class on their schedule, etc. ) This rotating schedule is a way for all students to have an opportunity to experience there classes at different times of the day.*

### **5. What is the dress code at Sierra Vista?**

*There is a dress code at Sierra Vista regarding footwear, tops/shirts, bottoms, hats/eyewear and other related clothing. Please refer to our website [sierravistajuniorhigh.org](http://sierravistajuniorhigh.org) → Parents Tab → SV Info link*

### **6. Is there a bus I can take to or from school? How much is it?**

*Yes. Bus 12, 5, or 6 takes students to and from school. . The price is \$1.00. You may also be interested in purchasing a Tap card, a monthly bus pass. Some students utilize our Santa Clarita buses. The website for more information about the buses and for schedules as well can be found at <http://santaclaritatransit.com/routes-schedules/>*

**7. What time does school start and end at Sierra Vista?** *School starts at 7:45 am and ends at 2:10 pm with the exception of early release Tuesdays when the day ends at 1:06 pm.*

### **8. Can I ride my bike or skateboard to school?**

*Students may ride their bike or skateboard to school as long as they have a helmet and a lock to lock their belonging in the bike/skateboard area. This area is located at the entrance of our campus/100 building.*

### **9. Can I bring a cell phone to school?**

*Students can bring cell phones to school, but can't have them out during class unless the teacher gives permission. The phones can be used at brunch or lunch.*

### **10. What are early release Tuesdays?**

Early release Tuesdays provide opportunities for our teachers to collaborate and learn after students are released at 1:06pm.

**11. How many elective classes will I take?**

*Each Sierra Vista student will take an elective class each semester unless you are in a yearlong elective.*

**12. Will I be placed in the elective of my choice?**

*Students will be asked to give their preferred choices for electives, but no guarantees can be made about selections. Availability changes from year to year are based on staffing, enrollment, and student interest. When a first choice elective is full, the counselors review students' alternate choices and try to place students in those courses.*

**13. What elective classes require teacher approval/application or audition?**

*ASB, Yearbook, SV Life, Advanced Band, Advanced Art and Advanced Chorus each have an application or audition process. Please check our website for more information about each program.*

**14. Which math class will I be placed in? Math 7 or Accelerated Math 7?**

*Towards the end of 6th grade, students will be taking a math placement test in their classrooms at their elementary schools. Test results determine math placement for 7th grade. A makeup placement test is scheduled in August.*

**15. When do I get my class schedule?**

*Sierra Vista students will receive their class schedule the first day of school. There will be alphabetical lists posted. The students will look up their last name and which class number they are to go to and pick up their schedule in their designated homeroom.*

**16. Will I have a lot of homework?**

*Sierra Vista teachers value family time and are aware of the impact homework has on life at home. That said, homework is a necessary means to extend learning beyond the school day. As a rule of thumb, 7th grade students can expect about 60 minutes of homework nightly. Opportunities are available throughout the school day for students to complete homework.*

**17. What happens if I forget my lunch/PE clothes, etc. at home?**

*There is a convenient area for parents to drop off forgotten items in the front office if they feel it is necessary. Students go to this area at brunch or lunch to pick up their item(s).*

**18. Can I bring my lunch? How can I purchase lunch?**

*Students can bring or buy their lunches. Some students carry cash to purchase lunch but many use the electronic account that is associated with their ID number. Parents can manage the account and make deposits from home using our website.*

**19. Where can I sit during brunch and lunch?**

*The lunch tables and some surrounding areas are all available for students to sit during brunch and lunch. While students naturally find areas that become routine for them, students may not claim any particular area or restrict who sits where. Administrators and campus supervisors closely monitor common areas to ensure students feel free to sit where they are comfortable. The library is also open during brunch and lunch as well as before and after school starting at 7:15 and until 3:00 pm. On early release Tuesdays the library is closed after school for staff training and collaboration.*

**20. How do students and parents keep track of grades?**

*Students and parents use Infinite Campus to keep track of grades, and in some cases, upcoming assignments. Log-in information will be provided at Summer Check-In. Most teachers have classroom websites that list assignments, upcoming tests and projects, important dates, and classroom business.*