Each year, Spring Lake Park High School receives numerous requests to enroll exchange students from other countries. Several factors are considered when reviewing an application for enrollment; these factors are outlined below. The high school will accept up to five exchange students per year.

**Placement agency**
- The placement agency must be approved by the Secretary of State’s office
- The placement agency must thoroughly screen applicants for
  - Academic achievement in the native/home school including a full translated transcript to verify previous academic achievement
  - English language proficiency in oral language, written language and reading Student interest and support of both the home and host families
- The placement agency must thoughtfully place students with appropriate home support and a commitment to the exchange student’s school and community engagement throughout the duration of the student’s stay
- Spring Lake Park High School maintains relationships with the following placement agencies: o AFS (up to 2 students)  
  - Rotary (1 student)
  - SLPHS German student exchange program
  - Youth for Understanding or otherwise approved agency (1 student)

**Mastery of English**
- English language proficiency is important for the exchange student to have a positive experience. Students must demonstrate adequate English language proficiency and provide documentation of proficiency with his/ her application.

**Year in School / Need for Credits**
- The primary purpose of the exchange should be about the cultural experience of the study abroad experience. Thus, the primary purpose should not be the accrual of credits, or a diploma from an American high school
- The exchange program should be limited to the senior year in most circumstances
- The exchange student will be granted an honorary diploma upon completion of a final year of study
Host family

• The placement agency’s ability to find a responsive and effective host family is critical to the success of the placement
• The host family must be willing and able to support the exchange student both academically and socially to maximize the student’s involvement throughout the exchange period
• The host family or the exchange student’s own family must be willing to support the needs of the student financially

Time of year

• Except under rare and special circumstances, placement should only be considered at the beginning of the school year

Guidance and questions

• A prospective family or placement agency with questions regarding enrolling an exchange student at Spring Lake Park High School can contact Maria Norman at 763-600-5102.