

Students Support Programs

- Counseling Services
- Service Learning
- Summer Programs

COUNSELING

The Academic Guidance Office

Academic guidance and counseling is provided to the students through the Guidance Office. The Guidance Office counselors work closely with teachers and students to promote and guide students toward academic excellence. The Academic Director heads the Guidance Office. Additionally, the School has an Academic Advisor for the Elementary School and an Academic Advisor for the Middle School.

Responsibilities of the Academic Director

At each grade level in High School, the Academic Director provides the students and the parents guidance relating to:

- Curriculum and testing
- Extracurricular activities
- High school graduation requirements
- In cooperation with the Middle School Academic Advisor implements the High School Service Learning program.
- Assist students in filling out registration forms for standardized tests such as ACT or SAT.
- Office help is provided to students and their parents to arrange for tutorial services.
- Concurrent Enrollment: Office help is provided to students who need to register in classes or courses to make up for missing or failing classes.

The Academic Director works closely with students during their college or university selection process. The Academic Director evaluates a student's potential and based on such criteria, proposes a college or university commensurate with the student's interests and abilities.

Responsibilities of the Elementary and Middle School Academic Advisors

At each grade level in K-8, the Academic Advisors provide the students and the parents guidance relating to:

- Academic issues: Academically challenged students are provided the necessary counseling to overcome their challenges. The Academic Advisor also assists parents and teachers to identify students who have special educational needs and with parents' consent refers them to special educational evaluation.
- Social and behavioral issues: The counselor assists parents and teachers to identify students who have social and behavioral weaknesses and assist to resolve these issues. The Academic Advisor also assists parents of troubled students to find proper outside counseling.

SERVICE LEARNING

All high school students are required to do volunteer work through the school Service Learning Program. The program has been put in place to provide the students the tools to enrich their personal experience in dealing with the overall society in which they live in. Therefore, students are required to serve the community by either volunteering in social service organizations, or by participating in and reporting on activities that promote community awareness, such as seminars, lectures and cultural events.

Students are required to devote a minimum of 25 hours of service per high school year and accordingly a minimum of 100 hours of service is required to meet graduation requirements.

The school Service Learning Program may be implemented in the following three major areas:

1. School Work:
 - a. Office Help - Perform on-campus clerical duties in the administrative office, the library, the bookstore, the accounting office, the guidance office, and other.
 - b. Tutoring - Tutor elementary and middle school students during senior year.
 - c. Volunteer to assist in the elementary school and in school activities

2. Community Service: Involves students in actual real life situations where they acquire firsthand knowledge and experience about social and political issues facing society.
 - a. Volunteer to help in political campaigns, social action groups, etc.
 - b. Volunteer to help in charitable organizations such as hospitals, daycare centers, social service offices, etc.
 - c. Join youth organizations, attend camp activities, etc.

3. Cultural Awareness: Provides students the opportunity to be involved in cultural processes within the community.
 - a. Attend and participate in seminars
 - b. Attend and participate in cultural events
 - c. Make contribution either in person or through correspondence to media outlets

All community service proposals must be presented to the Service Learning Coordinator for approval, prior to the activity or event.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

The following summer programs are available to the students:

Incoming Kindergarten Students

Duration: Three weeks starting late June, five days/week, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Purpose: This program is designed to help Kindergarten bound students to be better prepared for the academic challenges set by California Department of Education Standards, Open Court English language and "Mer Lezoon" Armenian language textbook series. For registration, please call the North Hills Office at (818) 892-7991.

Grades K-5

Duration: Three weeks starting late June, five days/week, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Purpose: This program is designed to help students advance in Armenian Language, English Language, English writing, Mathematics with computer based math drills. For registration and information, please call the North Hills Office at (818) 892-7991.

Grades 6-8

Duration: Three weeks starting late June, five days/week, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Purpose: This program is designed to help Middle School students advance in English language, English writing, Mathematics and computer based math drills and Armenian. For registration and information, please call the Encino Office at (818) 784-6228.

Armenian Youth Federation (AYF) Summer Camp

Located in the Angeles National Forest in a well-equipped beautiful forestland near Wrightwood, AYF Camp provides an array of outdoor activities and a valuable social experience to young Armenians between the ages of eight and sixteen.

The six-week camp program starts every summer in the second week of July and concludes in mid August. For registration, please call 1-866-775-AYFC or 818-242.7494.

Hai Tahd Internship Program

An intensive six-week public affairs internship program for young Armenian Americans from across the country, organized by The Armenian National Committee of America - Western Region (ANCA-WR) and Leo Sarkissian Internship Program in Washington. For information, please contact the ANCA-WR at 818-500-1918 or at ancawr@anca.org.

Hamazkayin Students Cultural Forum

Two weeks of extensive exposure to the Armenian culture, history and heritage by prominent Armenian scholars and intellectuals in Yerevan, Armenia or Beirut, Lebanon. For more information and registration, please visit www.hamazkayin.com.