

Student Activities

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PROGRAMS AND POLICY

The school organizes a variety of co-curricular and extracurricular activities that provide the students with actual real life experiences and enrich their awareness of issues beyond the knowledge provided through the adopted curriculum.

The Administration encourages all students to take part in these co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Participation in such activities is a privilege; therefore, students with an “F” grade in Citizenship are excluded from all co-curricular and extracurricular activities with the exception of School organized Fairs and Assemblies.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The co-curricular activities are organized by the school to supplement the curriculum to promote student learning. The co-curricular activities include:

- a. School organized fairs and assemblies
 - a. Science Fair; grades 6 – 12
 - b. History Day, grades 6 – 12
 - c. Math Festival, grades 1-8
 - d. Armenian History Day, grade 1-12
- b. Academic Competitions
 - a. Model UN Los Alamitos, grades 8 and 9
 - b. Model UN UCLA, grades 10-12
 - c. Model UN Berkeley, grades 11 and 12
 - d. Science Bowl, grades 11 and 12
 - e. LA County Science Fair, grades 8-12
 - f. Armenian Timeline, grade 8
 - g. Armenian Spellin B, grades 6-9
 - h. Geography Bee, grades 6-9
 - i. Spelling B, grades 6-9
 - j. California Math League Competition 6-8
 - k. World Math
- c. Extended Educational Trips
 - a. Armenia Trip, grade 11
 - b. Washington DC / New York trip, grade 8
 - c. Sacramento/Fresno Trip, grade 6
- d. Field Trips

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The extracurricular activities enrich the students with skills and experiences that enhance their creativity. The activities help students learn to set and achieve goals, manage time efficiently, and get involved in the community. The extracurricular activities include:

- a. Athletic Games and Activities
- b. Student Clubs
- c. Student Committees
- d. Social Activities

SCHOOL FAIRS AND ASSEMBLIES

School Science Fair and L.A. County Science Fair

In partnership with Boeing Rocketdyne Company, the Science Department organizes a yearly school-wide Science Fair that allows students, grades 6-12 to display their scientific projects. A panel of judges evaluates the projects and announces the winners. The winners of the School Science Fair qualify to participate in the L.A. County Science Fair in April of each year.

History Day

The school Social Studies department organizes an annual school-wide History Day that allows students, grades 6-12 to display their representation of historic events. A panel of judges evaluates the projects and announces the winners.

Math League Festival

The Math Department organizes this competition for grades 6-8. Basically, it is a competition for math skills.

Armenian History Day

The Armenian Department organizes this Armenian History fair for grades 1-12. Students present major events in Armenian history and display boards. A panel of judges evaluates the projects and announces the winners.

Assemblies Recognizing Armenian Holidays

The Armenian Department organizes several assemblies throughout a school year to celebrate and commemorate notable Armenian religious and national holidays. Student groups with the support of the Armenian language and history teachers present musicals or theatrical performances, choreographed dances, and on certain occasions, using state-of-the-art audio-visual tools present clips of events all these to the delight and the pleasure of the student body. The celebrated holidays are Armenian Cultural Day in October, Saints Vartanank Day that usually falls in February/March of a year, the Armenian Genocide Commemoration Day in April, and the Armenian Independence Day in May.

Additionally, twice a year, before the Christmas and Easter vacations, students attend church to receive Holy Communion after which after a morning fast, students are treated to homemade bread rolls offered by the PTA.

ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

Model United Nations

The Model UN allows student participants to exercise research, writing, critical thinking, and public speaking skills. Students attend university-based conferences that simulate United Nations operations. Ferrahian students grades 9-12 have participated in the Model UN-UCLA and Model UN-Berkeley programs since September 1999. Since 2007 Ferrahian 8 and 9 graders have participated in Los Alamitos Model UN program. The registration fee and transportation costs excluding food are estimated at \$50-60 for Los Alamitos, \$100-125 for UCLA and \$500-600 for UC Berkeley.

Science Bowl

The LADWP Science Bowl is an official regional competition of the U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl. This regional competition is held annually and is open to public high schools in the LAUSD and private/parochial schools located within the City of Los Angeles. The competition helps develop various skills and confidence in students to pursue studies and careers in math, science, and technology fields. The program also serves to showcase the talents, knowledge, and abilities of today's outstanding high school science scholars.

Armenian Time-Line Quiz Bowl

The 8th graders participate in Armenian Time-Line Quiz bowl organized by the Ararat Home for the Elderly. The competitors come from other Armenian middle schools.

Armenian Spelling Bee

The school Armenian department organizes an annual school-wide Armenian Spelling Bee competition. Students, grades 6-9 participate in this competition first on grade level basis followed by grade level winners competing against each other. A panel of judges evaluates the results and announces the winners.

Geography Bee Contest

The school Social Studies department organizes an annual school-wide Geography Bee competition. Students, grades 6-9 participate in this competition first on grade level basis followed by grade level winners competing against each other. A panel of judges evaluates the results and announces the winners.

World Math

On-line real time math competition. Students solve math problems and challenges using 3P game engine.

EDUCATIONAL EXTENDED TRIPS

Participation in the following trips to Armenia, Washington DC / New York and Sacramento/Fresno Armenia is a privilege that students must earn. Students who have received "F" grade in Citizenship will lose their privilege of participation in these trips.

Trip to Armenia

The Junior Class (previously Senior Class) trip to Armenia has become a Ferrahian tradition. After many years of reading and learning about Armenia, the students finally get the opportunity to visit the precious homeland of our ancestors and experience first hand the history, the culture, the people, the soil, and the beauty of our magnificent land, Armenia.

To make the best of this trip, it is essential that students maintain a safe and comfortable environment and therefore, the Administration will enforce the disciplinary policies adopted at school. During travel, behavior that disrupts the learning environment or jeopardizes the physical or emotional health of students will be subject to the school disciplinary provisions and will be enforced by the chaperons accompanying the group.

Parents must sign the following forms and documents necessary pertaining to the regulations assessed for this trip: [Parental Agreement](#), Behavior Policy, [Special Rules](#) Medical Release Form and [Permission to Visit Relatives/Friends in Armenia](#). The cost of this trip ranges from \$2,800 to \$3,000. Students 18 years and older must obtain the necessary visa(s).

Trip to Washington DC / New York

Starting April 2006, Ferrahian School instituted a program for the 8th graders to visit Washington DC during the Easter break. During this 6-day trip the students get the opportunity to visit historic, political and scientific points of interest in the capital city.

Parents must sign the following forms and documents necessary pertaining to the regulations assessed for this trip: [Parental Agreement](#), Behavior Policy, [Special Rules](#) and Medical Release Form. The cost of this trip ranges from \$1,600 to \$1,800 per student.

Trip to Sacramento and Fresno

The trip is a three-day, two-night motor coach trip to Sacramento and Fresno. While in Sacramento, students visit the State Capital Building, visit the California Railroad Museum and other noteworthy attractions. Following the Sacramento visit, the group travels to Fresno where they visit leading Armenian landmarks, including Soghomon Tehlerian's Memorial Site, the statue of Sasountsi Tavit, the statue of William Saroyan, the Holy Trinity Armenian Church, and time allowing other notable attractions.

EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are encouraged provided they are subject matter related. All grades K-12 are entitled to one local field trip each year. The students must pay the transportation and entrance fees and other expenses at least one week prior to the trip. Additional trips are optional. The Vice Principal must approve all field trips for grades 6-12 and the Assistant Principal for the Elementary grades.

K-5 Field Trips		
	Field Trip	Subject Area
K	Theatre West "StoryBook Theatre"	Language Arts
K	Kids Space Childrens Museum, Pasadena	Science
1	Theatre West "StoryBook Theatre"	Language Arts
1	Calif. Science Center & I Max Theatre, Los Angeles	Science (Human Body & Insects)
2	Play	Language Arts
2	Star Eco Station Environmental Wild Life Reptile Station	Science
2	Leonis Adobe Museum of Pioneer Living	Social Studies
3	Play	Language Arts
3	La Brea Tar-Pits & George C Page Museum, Hancock Park	Science
3	Chumach Indian Museum, Tousand Oaks	Social Studies
4	Play	Language Arts
4	Calif. Science Center & I Max Theatre, Los Angeles	Science (Deep Sea)
4	Van Nuys Airport Tour	Science
4	Gene Autry Museum (Western Heritage) & LA Zoo	Social Studies
5	Play	Language Arts
5	Planetarium Griffith Park Observatory	Science
5	Colonial Experience at Ronald Regan Library (if chosen)	Social Studies
5	Universal Studios Year End Graduation Trip	
K-5	Campus demo: Fire Truck and Police car	

6-12 Field Trips		
	Field Trip	Organized by
6	Play	English
6	Parks as Labs - Malibu	
6	South West Native American Museum	
6	Discovery Center	Earth Science
7	Play	English
7	Aquarium of the Pacific	
7	Ronald Reagan Library	
7	Ararat Home for the Seniors	Armenian
8	Play	English
8	Museum of Natural History	
8	Washington D.C.	Social Studies
10	Getty Center	
10	USC - Armenian Music Day	
11	LA Times - Daily News	Journalism
11	Asbarez Daily & Horizon TV	Armenian
11	Armenia Trip	Armenian Dept.
12	Waste Water treatment facility	Science
12	Visit ANC/AYF/Shant	Armenian Dept.
12	Grad Night (Disneyland)	Senior Class
3	Museum of Natural History, LA County Museum	Science
	Discovery Science Center (Orange County - Santa Ana) http://www.discoverycube.org/	

ATHLETIC GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School athletic programs include:

California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section - Liberty-League Games:

- Basketball:
 - o Junior Varsity Boys and Girls
 - o Varsity Boys and Girls
 - o Freshman/Sophomore Boys
- Volleyball:
 - o Junior Varsity Boys and Girls
 - o Varsity Girls only
- Cross-Country:
 - o Junior Varsity Boys and Girls
 - o Varsity Boys and Girls
- Track and Field
 - o Junior Varsity Boys and Girls
 - o Varsity Boys and Girls

San Fernando Valley League

- Basketball: 7-8 grades, Boys and Girls
- Volleyball: 7-8 grades, Girls only

KAHAM – Interscholastic Armenian School Games

- Basketball: Grades 1-8, Boys and Girls
- Volleyball: Grades 5-8, Boys and Girls
- Track and Field: Grades 1-8, Boys and Girls
- Soccer: Grades 1-8, Boys and Girls
- Table Tennis: 3-8, Boys and Girls
- Chess: 3-8, Boys and Girls
- Cross Country: 3-8, Boys and Girls

Involvement in Ferrahian athletic programs is not limited to sports alone. Students have the opportunity to serve as scorekeepers, photographers, and carry out other responsibilities as assigned.

To be eligible to participate in athletic activities, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.00 per quarter and attain “C” grade or better in Citizenship.

STUDENT CLUBS

Students are encouraged to participate in school club activities. Following is a list of active clubs:

High School Clubs

- Armenian / Hai Tahd Club
- CSF - California Scholarship Federation
- Chess Club
- Computer Club
- Cooking Club
- Drama Club

Middle School Clubs

- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Computer Club
- Cooking Club
- Debate Club
- Dance Club
- French Club
- Soccer Club

California Scholastic Federation

C.S.F. is a statewide organization, which recognizes students with a record of high academic achievement. Interested and qualified students must apply for membership every semester. To qualify, students must excel in core subjects. Consecutive semesters of membership in C.S.F. can lead a student to attain C.S.F. Life Member status, a merit usually stated on the student's high school transcript of records. Distinction in C.S.F. also provides students with increased qualifications for outside scholarship programs (see also Academic Awards section of this handbook).

STUDENT COMMITTEES

Student Council

The Student Council is the elected student-representative body. The student council is elected by a secret ballot and is regulated by specific by-laws. A student with an “F” in the Citizenship grade can not be elected to Student Council.

The members of the Student Council act as advocates of their peers. During their term, the students organize a variety of activities such as fundraising, social, athletic, and educational events and they get the opportunity to acquire leadership skills and be acquainted with the democratic process.

- The Student Council is comprised of the following elected officers:

President	12th Grade representative
Boys' Vice President	11th Grade representative
Girls' Vice President	10th Grade representative
Secretary	9th Grade representative
Treasurer	8th Grade representative
	7th Grade representative

Yearbook Committee

The yearbook is a comprehensive album of student portraits, photos of friends, student activities, school events, school committees' group pictures and other memorabilia. The Yearbook is published at the end of each academic year in collaboration with students, the faculty, and representatives of the Administration.

The estimated (\$75) cost of the yearbook is included in the registration fee. Thus, all students will be entitled to a copy. Additional copies of the yearbook may be purchased from the school Bookstore.

Armenian “Shogh” Periodical Committee

Under the sponsorship of the Armenian Department, students who excel in Armenian language and literature come together to publish a periodical that includes the literary work of the students.

Journalism Class “Ferrahian Hyelights”

The school Journalism class publishes the periodical “Ferrahian Hyelights.” It features highlights of special events of interest to students, reports on community and contemporary social life of the youth and other such commentaries.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The school organizes a variety of social activities that enhances the social fabric among its student population.

Senior Class Prom

It is a tradition for seniors at Ferrahian to have the prom night in a style of a formal banquet with family members and friends. The prom night is a much-anticipated event with all its formal setting and ceremonial rituals. Students and family members cherish this evening with memories for many years to come.

Senior Class “Disney Grad Nite”

The “Disney Grad Nite” is the biggest and most entertaining graduation tradition in California hosted by Walt Disney World Resort for graduating seniors. On a magical night in May seniors throughout California congregate in the Magic Kingdom for a celebration full of musical performers, thrilling attractions, Disney characters and special times with lifelong friends and fellow students. Ferrahian seniors join other seniors in this popular custom. The ‘Disney’ trip is a privilege that students must earn. Students who have received “F” grade in Citizenship will lose their privilege to participate in this trip.

Winter Formal

The Student Council organizes the Winter Formal during the winter season. This is an evening of fun and dance. The activity is open to high school students, grades 9-12.