



2016 VIEWBOOK



FRANCIS
PARKER
SCHOOL

est. 1912

as far as the mind can see

WELCOME



Dear Prospective Students and Families:

Let me start by saying thank you for your interest in attending Francis Parker School.

The Parker journey begins with who we are: One Community of remarkable students, dedicated teachers and staff, engaged parents and alumni – all supported by a loyal corps of volunteers.

We are a community of people who are deeply invested in preparing each child to live meaningful, fulfilling lives in an increasingly global society.

We start by providing exceptional academic instruction, positioning students to develop intellectual curiosity. Along the way, character education is embedded into the curriculum so that students develop instincts for personal responsibility, self-reliance and social awareness. In the Middle and Upper Schools, our Global Studies Program immerses students in cultural field studies, allowing them to become true citizens of the world.

All of this happens in a nurturing, college-going culture where 100 percent of our graduates are accepted to four-year colleges and universities. A notable 86 percent of the members of the Class of 2015 were admitted to a "Most Competitive" or "Highly Competitive College," as listed by Barron's.

We invite you to come see what makes Parker one of the most desirable independent schools in the country. Our doors are always open.

Best,

Kevin Yaley

Kevin Yaley
Head of School

OUR MISSION



OUR MISSION

To create and inspire a diverse community of independent thinkers whose academic excellence, global perspective and strength of character prepare them to make a meaningful difference in the world.

OUR VISION

Parker is committed to graduating students who embody those qualities essential for academic success and personal fulfillment – intellectual curiosity, creative thinking, a passion for learning, a sense of ethical responsibility, self-reliance, community engagement and global competence – by offering a balanced, challenging and integrated Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 educational program in academics, athletics and the arts, all in a vibrant and diverse school community.

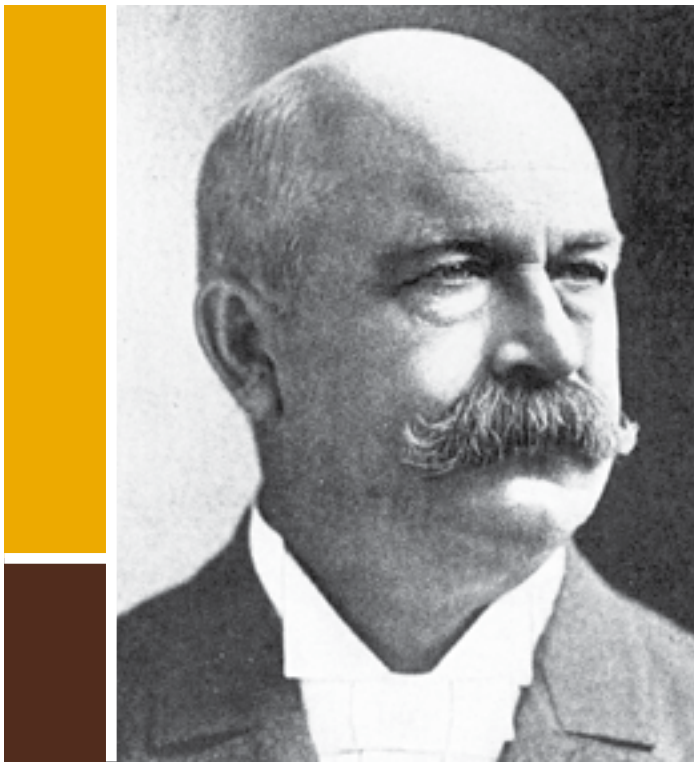
OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Plan serves as a roadmap to ensure that students at Parker are prepared for success not only in college, but also throughout their lives.

The next chapter at Parker is designed to inspire each student to reach "as far as the mind can see" – to dream, achieve and bring their unique contributions to the world.

We invite you to learn more about Parker's unwavering commitment to excellence at www.francisparker.org/strategicplan

OUR HISTORY



"The needs of the society determine the work of the school."

– Col. Francis W. Parker

For over a century, Francis Parker School has inspired student achievement by honoring the rich traditions of our namesake, Col. Francis W. Parker, who believed students should "learn by doing."

Parker started as a small elementary school founded by Clara Sturges Johnson and her husband, the architect William Templeton Johnson, on Dec. 31, 1912. They envisioned a school that inspired a love of learning by teaching children how to think and solve problems on their own initiative rather than offering rote lessons and textbooks.

The Johnsons were inspired by the work and philosophy of Col. Parker, who was known at the time as "the father of progressive education." A New Hampshire native, Parker was a teacher who earned the rank of colonel during his service in the Civil War.

He resumed his career as an educator after the war to become superintendent of schools in Quincy, Mass., where his research and work became widely known. He later served as the Director of the School of Education at the University of Chicago.

Parker's work emphasized the role of the classroom teacher, calling "spontaneous enthusiasm in the work of the classroom" the teaching quality he "prized above all others."

Inspired by Col. Parker, Clara and William Johnson opened the Francis W. Parker School in a cottage at the corner of Randolph Street and Fort Stockton Drive, where the San Diego Mission Hills Nursery now stands.

In the first year, they had three students. By the time the first buildings were completed at 4201 Randolph St., enrollment stood at 30. Today, Francis Parker School has two campuses and serves more than 1,200 students at the Lower, Middle and Upper Schools.

Parker's success has been achieved and sustained through the generosity of Parker families and alumni through the years. The School benefits from a growing endowment of \$23 million to help support advances to the educational program, student financial assistance and professional development for faculty.

With a firm respect for the past and a focus on the future, Parker is poised to inspire the next generation of students to reach "as far as the mind can see."



ONE COMMUNITY



"The strong sense of community that existed when I was a student at Parker continues today. We chose Parker for our kids for the same ideal environment, including small class sizes, a dedicated faculty and a strong academic program to prepare them for their future."

– Belle Drouin '89, parent of three Parker students

MANY FAMILIES, ONE SCHOOL, ONE PARKER COMMUNITY

Our exceptional community is what truly sets Parker apart. We know what matters most – our remarkable students, dedicated teachers and staff, engaged parents, grandparents and alumni, and many volunteers.

Our goal is to be One Community where all members feel valued, included and respected. Parker is an open and welcoming school that takes pride in providing a robustly diverse and inclusive learning environment.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ATTENTION

There is no prototypical Parker student. Each student's unique abilities are celebrated and challenged to nurture compassionate and talented scholars, artists, athletes and leaders.

We educate each child to develop an understanding and appreciation of individual and group responsibilities. The promotion of self-worth, good citizenship, honor and moral integrity is central to the purpose of Francis Parker School.

With a limited number of students in each grade level, faculty and staff get to know the personalities, strengths, challenges and interests of each child.

ENROLLMENT BY GRADE LEVEL

Junior Kindergarten	48 students
Senior Kindergarten	60 students
Grades 1-5	60 to 68 students per grade level
Grades 6-8	90 to 104 students per grade level
Grades 9-12	average 125 students per grade level

ONE COMMUNITY



FACULTY

Parker's exceptional faculty and strong curriculum stimulate creative, critical and independent thinking in young minds.

Francis Parker School employs 155 teaching faculty, 95 of whom hold advanced degrees (master's and above).

Many of our outstanding faculty stay and build long-lasting careers at Parker.

Faculty and staff with 10 to 19 years' tenure = 33
Faculty and staff with more than 20 years' tenure = 22

Longtime faculty are balanced by a growing number of new expert faculty who bring outside teaching experience and subject area expertise to Parker.

A student-faculty ratio of 10-to-1 in the Lower School and 15-to-1 in the Middle and Upper Schools allows our teachers to get to know every student.

FAMILY

Parker encourages the involvement of the entire family – parents, grandparents, siblings and valued guardians – in the care and development of our students.

Our families send their children to Parker because they believe education is the single greatest gift they can give them. That dedication results in a commitment to participation among Parker families.

This includes active Parent and Grandparent Associations, D.A.D.S. (Dads and Dad Surrogates) resources, parenting workshops, social gatherings and opportunities to help organize special events such as our Gala, Grad Night and Homecoming fundraisers.

THE PARKER LEGACY

Since 1912, Parker parents, alumni and grandparents have come together as one school and one community. It is a point of pride that many Parker families attended the School for several generations.

We make every effort to admit siblings when appropriate so families may participate more fully in the Parker experience.



BUILDING LEADERS



"Diversity is what makes us real."
– Sophie Solar '14

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

We all learn from each other. A broad range of viewpoints, cultures and voices is critical to the educational experience.

Our students and faculty welcome and treasure the diversity of our vibrant student body. Parker students represent a wide spectrum of geographic diversity, coming from across San Diego County. In addition, our tuition assistance program helps make a Parker education accessible to families who might not otherwise consider an independent school.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Parker students develop the confidence and the humanity necessary to live meaningful, fulfilling lives in an increasingly globalized society.

Character education is embedded in the curriculum of all three schools. We begin in the Lower School with the STRIVE code of ethics.

- S** Seek always to do your best
- T** Treat people and property with respect
- R** Revere the truth
- I** Invest in your future
- V** Value school rules, your heritage and personal responsibility
- E** Enrich the world for all

Character education is also built into the Middle School advisory program. Each grade level has a different emphasis – self-awareness in Grade 6, community awareness in Grade 7 and global awareness in Grade 8. All teaching focuses around the core values of community, lifelong learning, whole-child education, collaboration and global citizenship.

At the Upper School, character education and moral development are pillars of campus life. Both are taught in formal and organic ways through classes, assemblies, Houses and clubs. A strong education dictates that all community members ask themselves how they can best represent themselves, their ideals and their community. The focus on character development results in individuals who continue to learn, respect and contribute to society in their lives after Parker.

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE



"Parker's rich curriculum allows each student to pursue academic excellence, artistic talent, athletic ability and character development, which provide the foundation for lifelong learning, passion and success."

— Kathy Purdon, Chair, Board of Trustees

Francis Parker School is a center of excellence among independent schools. We seek to prepare students to flourish in an increasingly competitive global society.

At Parker, we strive for excellence in everything we do – from the quality of our curriculum to the selection and support of our exceptional faculty. Our students benefit from a superior college-preparatory education in a diverse, welcoming environment that meets the individual needs of the whole child.

We encourage innovation and creativity to instill a lifelong love of learning that is fostered from the very first day of Junior Kindergarten through to Upper School commencement.



THREE DIVISIONS
TWO CAMPUSES
ONE PARKER



"The Lower School program is continuously shaped, refined and renewed to provide a superior educational experience for students."

– Bob Gillingham, Head of the Lower School

Located on Parker's historic Mission Hills Campus, the Lower School provides a warm, friendly learning environment in which all members of the community feel respected and welcomed.

An innovative Junior Kindergarten through Grade 5 curriculum is augmented with a rich array of special classes and a character development program that emphasizes being a responsible classmate and citizen while giving back to the greater community.





"The Middle School's goal is to create learning environments that discover and nurture the individual gifts and talents in each child."

– Dan Lang, Head of the Middle School

Located on the beautiful Linda Vista Campus, the Middle School recognizes the importance of creating a structure that transitions from the nurturing world of elementary school to the academically rigorous and increasingly independent world of high school.





"The Upper School academic, artistic and athletic programs are designed to challenge students to learn, think, create and act with purpose and thoughtfulness."

– Paul Barsky, Head of the Upper School

The Upper School program – housed in state-of-the-art facilities on the Linda Vista Campus – reflects a commitment to excellence from the classroom to the stage and from the field out to the greater community.



INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS



“Academic excellence is our basic expectation. There is no limit to what our students can achieve.”

– Dan Lang, Head of the Middle School

GRADE 8 DISCOVERY WEEK

The world is interconnected. Our society and individual lives are directly affected by what occurs in other societies. Developing our students' global perspective is a key component of Parker's mission. Discovery Week is a culminating learning experience for the Grade 8 program and a capstone for our Middle School experience. During Discovery Week, students travel to various destinations where they expand their foreign language skills, gain cultural understanding, employ their skills as independent and self-directed learners, and make connections between classroom learning and the real world. Trips are organized and closely chaperoned by Parker faculty members, and each includes historical and cultural visits. Some programs include homestays with local families. Planned destinations for 2016 are Beijing, China; Costa Rica; France; New York City; and an exploration of the Amazon in Peru.

PROGRAM INNOVATIONS

LOWER SCHOOL

Balanced Literacy
Singapore Math Curriculum
Daily Foreign Language Classes
Daily Physical Education Classes
Design Lab

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Global Education
Life Skills Program
Robotics
Computer Programming

UPPER SCHOOL

Interim Week Enrichment Classes
Honors Mandarin Chinese
Yearlong Innovative Arts Courses
Trimester Science Courses

DESIGN THINKING

Design thinking is a process, applicable to all walks of life, of creating new and innovative ideas and solving problems. It is not limited to a specific industry or area of expertise.

The Parker mission calls for cultivating independent thinkers with global perspective and strong character. As we move further into the 21st century, we believe that the best way to meet our mission and prepare students for the world of work is to provide a rigorous, challenging curriculum that is infused with design thinking principles, such as the development of perseverance and a passion for knowledge.

We are integrating design thinking into instruction at all grade levels. Learn more at our design thinking blog: www.francisparker.org/designthinking

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

FACILITIES

William Templeton Johnson was the School's co-founder and its original architect. He went on to design landmark buildings such as the Serra Museum in Presidio Park and the San Diego Natural History Museum.

In designing the School, Johnson sought to provide a physical environment where natural lighting and fresh air helped students to focus and maximize their learning. That design tradition continues to be honored today.

The historic Mission Hills Campus and the modern Linda Vista Campus were thoroughly renovated with state-of-the-art facilities in a \$70 million capital improvement program completed in 2010 through the generous philanthropy of the Parker community.

The canyon rim environment of the Linda Vista Campus is enhanced by natural design landscaping and award-winning architecture that incorporates redwood and copper siding to integrate indoor and outdoor spaces into an inspirational open campus.



SUMMER AND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM



The Summer and Extended Day programs complement Parker's traditional academic program.

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

Parker Lower and Middle School students have the opportunity to remain on campus and enjoy supervised activities following the end of the schoolday by joining the Lancer Enrichment After-School Program (LEAP).

Lower School students who choose to enroll in the School's child care program (available on a full-term or daily drop-in basis) can get a jump on the next day's homework assignments in a relaxed but supervised environment. They also may enroll in a number of enrichment classes and recreational activities provided by outside vendors for an additional fee.

SUMMER PROGRAM

Students enhance their learning profile by registering for an array of experiential learning courses and fun afternoon camps, the majority of which are taught and directed by Parker teachers and coaches. At the Lower School, students may enroll in grade-specific "JumpStart" courses, as well as the long-standing afternoon "Summer Fun" activities camp.

Middle School and Upper School students who wish to accelerate or enrich their learning can choose from a number of courses in foreign languages, mathematics, sciences, performing and visual arts, and college preparation. Upper School students may choose courses to fulfill academic requirements and earn credit in several disciplines during the summer months.

Aspiring jazz musicians polish their talents under the guidance of professional performers and accomplished teachers. The Jazz 88.3 FM Summer Jazz Workshop closes with student performances at San Diego's House of Blues and is offered during Session II of the Parker Summer Program.

As a sound body makes for a sound mind, the Parker Summer Program features sports camps directed by Nike, Top Gun Basketball and Creative Skills Soccer, among others.



LEARNING ENRICHMENT



UPPER SCHOOL INTERIM WEEK

Each February, Upper School students take a break from their classes for a week of enrichment through the Interim Program. Now in its sixth year, the program draws on the diverse talents, interests and experiences of our faculty to expose students to a variety of alternative learning experiences and travel. Recent classes have included Stained Glass Creation; Song Writing, Arranging & Recording; and The Business of Robots.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"The needs of the society determine the work of the school."

—Col. Francis W. Parker

The ideals of community service, leadership and civic responsibility have deep roots in Parker history. The school was founded on the educational philosophy of Col. Francis W. Parker, who thought students should learn by doing and be encouraged to understand and fulfill their responsibilities to serve their community. Today, service-learning opportunities begin in Kindergarten and continue through Grade 12. Optional student-led advocacy and social service clubs abound in the Middle and Upper Schools. Many activities take students off campus to engage with the greater San Diego community, the country and the world. Upper School students go beyond the classroom by performing community service. By graduation, each student completes a minimum 70 hours of service that includes formal reflection on experiences, supervision and evaluation.



GLOBAL STUDIES



"The common thread throughout our experiences ... has been immersing ourselves (literally) in a world radically different from our own."

—2014 Parker Student Global Studies Travel Blog

GLOBAL LEARNING

Parker takes students beyond the classroom to the world through meaningful, age-appropriate opportunities for experiential education. Annually, Parker offers optional travel opportunities to a wide variety of domestic and international destinations. For each traveler, the trips become unforgettable, life-changing experiences. During these transformational journeys, students learn through exploration. They unpack their foreign language skills, tackle service projects and immerse themselves in historical, ecological and cultural field studies. In this way, Parker students truly become citizens of the world.

UPPER SCHOOL GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAM

Two-week international study programs are optional for students in Grades 9 to 12. The trips provide students with the opportunity to experience the world in ways outside traditional tourism.

Each program has a central theme and a well-defined set of educational goals. These Global Studies programs promote experiences in developing parts of the world appropriate to more mature students. Many experiences incorporate a component of service and immersion within communities representative of developing nations.

The two-week programs being offered for the 2015-2016 school year are:

South Africa
The Philippines
Colombia
Cambodia
India

Alternate two-week programs:

YK Pao School Exchange/Language
Immersion Program*
June Global Student Leaders Summit
(The Hague/Europe)

* Limited to two sophomore Mandarin Chinese students.

INTERIM WEEK

Upper School students also may elect to join weeklong study programs available during the February interim week.

Study programs planned for 2016 include:

Cuba
Prague and Budapest
9/11 memorial sites



LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC

Music at the Lower School begins in Junior Kindergarten with wonderful choral performances throughout the school year. Students in Grades 3 to 5 expand their music skills by learning to play recorders, band instruments and violin. Seasonal performances include Grandparents Day concerts, the Thanksgiving Concert, the Holiday Sing-Along and the Spring and Summer concerts.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC

Music is an essential component of the Middle School program. The class schedule has been crafted to provide daily class time for students to pursue band, chorus, guitar, percussion or strings. In addition, many small groups form during the year to rehearse and perform music for special occasions. Most ensemble groups perform off campus in local and regional festivals. Listen to Tamara Paige, Director of the Lancer Orchestra, describe the importance of music education:

www.francisparker.org/lancerorchestra



UPPER SCHOOL MUSIC

Parker musicians perform at several annual concerts and important School events, such as Spring Arts Night and Commencement. Upper School ensembles include Parker Glee Ensemble, Classical Guitar, Contemporary Guitar, Instrumental Ensemble (Concert and Jazz Band), Orchestra and Pep Band. Students also have the opportunity to join small groups that perform and compete at off-campus venues, including community events and the annual Forum Music Festival in Anaheim.



MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATRE

Students involved in the Middle School Drama Program work on skills including problem-solving, intellectual and physical flexibility, body awareness, vocal development, active listening, improvisation, memorization and play analysis. In the Grade 6 and Grade 7 drama elective, students learn theatre terminology, perform monologues and scenes, and perform in drama presentations at the end of the trimester. Grade 8 students learn about playwriting, directing, technical theatre and different acting techniques. Students in this class perform in one-act and full-length plays.

The Musical Theatre elective teaches performing skills and proper singing techniques. Students will understand that analyzing the music, lyrics structure and style of a musical theatre song guides the performer to make more effective choices.

Students can take drama or musical theatre for one trimester or multiple trimesters.

LOWER SCHOOL THEATRE

Annually, students in Grades 1 to 5 stage delightful shows for Parker parents. These productions reflect what the students are learning in the literature and/or social studies curricula. Past performances include the Grade 1 play "Fairy Tale Forest," the Grade 2 play "Coming to America," a Grade 3 play based on the American government, the Grade 4 play "Oh California!" and the Grade 5 play "Keepers of the Earth." Students have the opportunity to learn lines, cues and blocking and incorporate music and choreography. There are roles and opportunities for every member of the class, and the students have even taken on the design, writing and production of their original plays.

UPPER SCHOOL THEATRE

The Upper School Drama Program builds on the techniques students learned in Middle School Drama, and is a stand-alone program, as well. The Upper School Drama Program develops students' confidence, active listening abilities and advanced improvisational skills. Textual analysis of plays is emphasized, along with techniques for creating a character, both physically and vocally. Students will study the acting methods of Stanislavski, Adler, Hagen and Meisner.

The Musical Theatre elective emphasizes preparation of material, performance skills and stage presence. Students present songs and scenes in class and learn techniques for both speaking and singing in character.



THE DRAMA CLUB

The Francis Parker Drama Club is open to Middle and Upper School students. The club welcomes students, to build their talents and foster interests, both onstage and offstage. Students who are interested in technical theatre have the opportunity to work on shows and learn about theatre production.

The Drama Club produces a season each year that includes plays that are all-school productions, as well as plays tailored for Upper School students and Middle School students. The club is part of the Educational Theatre Association and has a junior thespian status and an international thespian status.

Recent productions include "Once on This Island," "Peter Pan," "Annie," "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," "The Diary of Anne Frank," "Godspell," and "Seussical."

MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL DANCE PROGRAM

Parker encourages self-expression and creativity through dance. Students participate in combined grade-level classes. The Middle School class combines Grades 6 and 7. The Upper School class is composed of students in Grades 8 to 12. Students learn a variety of dance genres during daily skills practice, including ballet, modern and jazz dance. They also create original choreography and perform their dance compositions in studio presentations or in campus performance spaces.

ARTS



VISUAL ARTS

The primary focus is on giving students hands-on experience with the artistic process in design, production and evaluation. Students are immersed in full-spectrum instruction that balances how to create and produce artistic work with the ability to appreciate visual arts from an aesthetic, historical and cultural perspective. Students develop language skills, artistic experience and creative expression. Student work also is displayed in public exhibits and gallery installations that promote student achievement and support authentic assessment of both the work and the student.

JAMES ALAN ROSE ART GALLERY

The gallery on the Linda Vista Campus exhibits artwork by students, alumni, faculty and artists in the greater San Diego community. Shows have included sculpture, painting, photography, video, drawing and mixed media. The gallery is open on weekdays during the school year from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

LOWER SCHOOL ARTS COURSES

- Art
- Drama
- Instrumental Music
- Choral Music
- Strings
- Design/Woodworking
- Dance

MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTS COURSES

- 2D Art (graphite, colored pencil, oil pastel, watercolor, tempera paint)
- 3D Art, Ceramics (hand-built and wheel-thrown)
- Journalism
- Yearbook
- Digital Photography
- Digital Animation
- Woodworking

UPPER SCHOOL ARTS COURSES

- Classical Guitar Ensemble
- Advanced Classical Guitar Ensemble
- Contemporary Guitar Ensemble
- Pep Band
- Instrumental Ensemble
- Intermediate Chamber Orchestra
- Advanced Chamber Orchestra
- Lancer Orchestra
- Intermediate/Advanced Dance
- 2D Art & Design
- 3D Art & Design (Clay, Stone, Wood)
- Motion Media
- Photography
- AP Studio Art (2D, Photography)
- Journalism & Design (Scribe, Yearbook)
- Intermediate/Advanced Theatre
- Musical Theatre
- AP Art History

ATHLETICS



There are currently over 75 athletes continuing their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

LEADING THE WAY IN ATHLETIC COMPETITION: IN HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND

The Upper School has 27 varsity teams that compete at the highest levels locally, regionally and statewide. Upper School athletes have access to a multi-sport turf field with lights, a recently renovated weight room, a cardio room and two full gyms.

Since 1973, Parker has won nine State CIF championships, 84 CIF San Diego Section crowns and 145 league titles.

After graduation, Parker athletes go on to compete at NCAA Division I, II and III and NAIA colleges and universities across the country. Every year, many students are awarded athletic scholarships based on their combined athletic and academic prowess.

STUDENT-ATHLETE BALANCE AT PARKER

A Parker education combines a rigorous college preparatory curriculum with activities outside the classroom to bring balance and perspective into the lives of our children.

Parker places a high priority on wellness, including developing habits of physical fitness that will benefit students long after graduation.

Our coaches strive to provide a challenging, competitive environment in which the ideals of sportsmanship, personal integrity, moral character and teamwork are emphasized.



ATHLETICS



INTEGRATED APPROACH TO ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

All Parker head coaches seek to ensure that our student-athletes learn the skills necessary to compete at levels appropriate to their individual abilities and interests.

Lower School – Parker's Lower School students first focus on basic motor skill development. Students learn the value of teamwork and are gradually introduced to fundamental athletic skills.

Grade 6 – Starting in Middle School, students progress to learning about good sportsmanship while being exposed to the full array of sports available at Parker. The focus continues to be on basic skill development and beginning team strategies. Students sample a variety of sports and activities throughout the year. For children new to team sports, this offers an opportunity to try a sport for the first time in a supportive and fun environment.

Grades 7 to 8 – In each of the three seasons (Fall, Winter and Spring), students select a sport and are placed on teams according to ability level, with practice during the regular school day. They represent Parker for the first time in interscholastic competition held both during and after school. Our priorities remain on participation and further skill development. All Middle School athletics programs are overseen by head coaches.

Novice and Junior Varsity teams – These teams are generally filled with players who are not quite ready for varsity-level competition. Depending on their level of interest, skill and the needs of the team, some older students may play on junior varsity teams. All students continue to work on refining fundamental skills and learning advanced strategies. Playing time is earned in practice, and individual player roles start to become defined.

Varsity Level – Students in Grades 9 to 12 may be invited to play on a varsity team, depending on skill level and the needs of the team. Parker fields competitive teams in most sports sanctioned by the San Diego CIF. The goals of varsity sports are to refine skills at a high level, to offer participation to as many student-athletes as possible, and to win matches and championships. Through competition, our students develop positive character traits that will have a beneficial impact on their lives.

Physical Education – The majority of students at Parker choose to take part in one or more interscholastic athletic teams. Others may participate in physical education classes, where they play a range of sports and engage in general fitness activities.

No-Cut Policy – In keeping with the School's mission to educate the whole child, all students who want to play a sport will make a team. No student will be excluded from participating on a team because of lack of ability or experience. We encourage students to explore the many sports offered at Parker. Through their participation, students will discover new abilities and develop a sound understanding of sport and physical well-being.

ATHLETICS



LANCERS AT THE NEXT LEVEL: ATHLETICS IN COLLEGE AND COLLEGE RECRUITING

Parker supports the aspirations of student-athletes who wish to engage in athletics at the college level. We are proud of the many Parker student-athletes who have continued their athletic careers at some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the country. While academic excellence is the most important aspect of a Parker education, athletics can be a factor in choosing an appropriate college or university. Students who have an interest in participating in a college athletic program should discuss this with their coaches as well as their college and academic counselors to ensure that all members of the Parker professional staff can appropriately assist the student and family during the college recruiting and application process.

SPORTS OFFERED AT PARKER

UPPER SCHOOL

Fall: Cheer, Girls and Boys Cross Country, Football, Girls Golf, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Boys Sand Volleyball, Sailing (Club), Surfing (Club)

Winter: Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Cheer, Sailing (Club), Surfing (Club)

Spring: Baseball, Softball, Boys Golf, Girls Lacrosse, Boys Lacrosse, Boys Tennis, Boys Volleyball, Boys and Girls Track and Field, Cheer, Girls Sand Volleyball (Club), Sailing (Club), Surfing (Club), Swim

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 7 TO 8)

Fall: Cross Country, Flag Football, Girls Volleyball, Coed Golf

Winter: Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Boys Basketball, Girls Softball

Spring: Baseball, Girls Basketball, Coed Tennis, Boys and Girls Track and Field, Boys Volleyball



COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE



"We focus on making a deep one-on-one investment in each student."

– Terri Devine, Dean of College Counseling

COLLEGE MATRICULATION 2010 TO 2015

In an era when dozens of top universities admit fewer than 10 percent of applicants, Parker's college placement rate is an outlier.

One hundred percent of Parker's graduating classes are accepted to colleges and universities around the country and abroad.

A remarkable 86 percent of the 127 members of the Class of 2015 were admitted to a "Most Competitive" or "Highly Competitive College," as listed by Barron's. The 478 Parker graduates from the classes of 2012 to 2015 are enrolled in 153 colleges and universities across 35 states, Washington, D.C., and around the world.



COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE



In Grade 11, each student is assigned to a college counselor who guides a cohort of approximately 42 students per grade. Evening college information sessions are held for parents and students at each Upper School grade level.

The College Counseling staff also coordinates an evening College Fair and a college application "Case Study" that allows Grade 11 students and parents to sit with admissions committee representatives from as many as 90 colleges. Special programs also are sponsored for students interested in college athletics and for parents seeking assistance with financial planning and applications for scholarships.

The "State of College Admissions" is a special panel discussion held periodically and arranged by the College Counselors for students and parents to better understand the current issues at work in an ever-evolving process. In the fall, Grade 11 and Grade 12 students have the opportunity to meet with more than 160 college admission representatives on campus.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

We believe the college search and selection to be a private and individualized process where students engage in self-reflection and learn to make informed and educated decisions concerning their future. Parker's expert college counselors offer guidance to students as they identify the appropriate fit for college based upon personal criteria, interests and strengths.

Parker's College Counseling Office includes three fulltime counselors with 50 years of combined college admissions counseling experience. All have worked as college admissions officers, giving them insider knowledge of the candidate selection process.

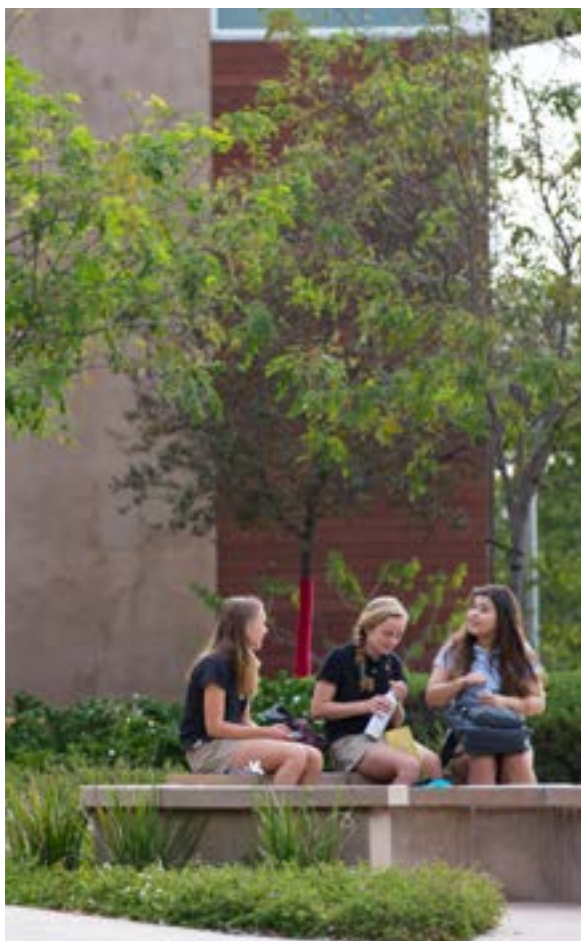
The preparation for applying to college begins in Grade 9, when Class Deans begin advising students on course selection and graduation requirements. Along with faculty advisers, Class Deans connect with students and support their navigation of the Upper School experience. Faculty advisers keep an eye on academic performance and emotional and social issues. They get to know advisees well, thus serving as informed and encouraging mentors.

Parker's College Counselors spend significant time getting to know each Upper School student throughout the college application process. That personalized attention yields great success in college placement.

Jarrid Whitney, Executive Director of undergraduate admissions and financial aid at Pasadena's California Institute of Technology, praises Parker's college counseling approach.

"When we review each candidate from Parker, we are confident that the candidate has been properly guided," he says. "The counseling team at Parker truly attempts to find the appropriate school for its students and not just push applicants toward colleges based on rankings."

STUDENT SERVICES



THE LEARNING CENTER

"The late-night studying, frustration and tears ended when I enrolled my daughter in The Learning Center."

– Satisfied Parker Parent

The Parker Learning Center (PLC) is a resource for students to receive academic support and acquire new tools for learning. It is also a place where already successful students can fine-tune their skills and enrich their knowledge. The PLC has a staff of experienced teachers who are qualified to teach Lower, Middle and Upper School students. The primary focus is to assist students in a way that helps them understand their strengths and weaknesses, and to find the approach that fits their learning profiles. Excellent communication takes place between the Learning Center and the classroom teachers, ensuring understanding of curriculum requirements and awareness of student progress. Both individual and small group instruction is available on a fee-for-service basis.

STUDENT SUPPORT/GRADE LEVEL TEAM

Staff teams composed of advisers, grade-level deans, division heads, the Director of the Parker Learning Center, college counselors and wellness staff meet on a regular basis to monitor student progress. Teachers are available before and after school to offer targeted academic support.

LIBRARIES

Francis Parker School maintains libraries on both campuses. Each library space offers a diverse and well-developed collection of print and non-print material suited to the needs of the respective schools. Each library also maintains a webpage to help students make use of the Internet for research by guiding them to age-appropriate online resources.

STUDENT SERVICES



TECHNOLOGY

Instruction and academic achievement are enhanced through the appropriate use of technology.

Lower School students have access to classroom iPads that are used to enrich and support the delivery and learning of core curriculum. Laptops are also available for more advanced technology explorations, including basic robotics and programming.

In the Middle School, Parker maintains a 1:1 iPad program. All Middle School students are provided with an iPad as part of their toolkit for daily learning.

The Upper School requires all students to come to school each day with a personal computing device (tablet or laptop) selected from a list of approved devices. We are constantly assessing the best way to seamlessly and authentically integrate technology into our teaching and learning while ensuring that the devices are the most appropriate for meeting the needs of our learners.

WELL-BEING

Parker offers students a balanced educational experience that enhances their achievement and wellness. A network of resources and support is available to help students lead balanced and healthy lives. We also integrate health, wellness, stress management and nutrition into campus life, from JK to Grade 12.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Recognizing that social, emotional and behavioral issues can impact learning and academic performance, Parker has a full-time licensed clinical psychologist available to provide short-term intervention, counseling and referrals.

NURSING SERVICES

Parker recognizes that healthy students are the most successful learners. To ensure that all students have the opportunity to achieve optimal health while on campus and receive medical care if warranted, a full-time registered nurse is available to students at both the Mission Hills and Linda Vista campuses.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



Parker welcomes students from diverse socioeconomic levels. We know our learning community is strengthened by the inclusion of people from different viewpoints, cultures, identities and backgrounds.

We are committed to providing access to highly qualified students. For the 2014-2015 school year, Parker awarded \$4.2 million in financial assistance to help achieve our goal of attracting and retaining the broadest pool of qualified students from across the socioeconomic spectrum.

HOW IS NEED DETERMINED?

The Parker financial assistance program closes the gap between the actual cost of a year's tuition and what a family can realistically be expected to contribute. The School seeks to allocate assistance fairly and equitably based on the financial needs of current and new enrolling families.

Information provided on the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) through School and Student Service by NAIS is used to complete a standardized calculation, determining an individual family's need. We also

consider the number of applicants, the available assistance budget, the level of assistance provided in prior years, changes in tuition cost and other relevant information.

We believe that parents demonstrate their commitment to their child's education by contributing toward the cost of a Parker education to the extent of their ability.

Typically, the School makes only partial financial assistance awards for tuition and fees.

Parker adheres to local, state and federal laws and regulations mandating nondiscriminatory practices in the administration of financial assistance.

SHOULD I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

There is no pre-determined income level that automatically qualifies a family for financial aid. We encourage families to apply for assistance if the full cost of tuition is more than they can afford.

WHO MAKES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DECISIONS?

Applying for financial assistance is a confidential matter. We are committed to providing a process for families that is sensitive, respectful and confidential. The Financial Aid Committee is composed of a group of Parker administrators chaired by the Director of Admission. Discussions and decisions are kept confidential. Beyond committee members, no one – including teachers, staff, administrators and Trustees – is privy to a family's financial assistance files.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



TRANSPORTATION

Families who receive tuition assistance may request additional assistance for School-bus service fees if commuting with parents creates a hardship. Requests should be made directly to the Admission Office and will be considered on an annual basis.

ATHLETICS

Expenses related to participation in athletics are generally included in the cost of tuition. Some sports involve long-distance travel for competitions and special spirit wear for team members. The coaches and the Athletic Director ensure that students for whom these extra costs create financial issues receive equitable assistance from the team budget.

BOOKS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS STUDENT EXPENSES

All students, regardless of financial circumstance, should be able to take part in activities considered a regular part of the School experience. These include Homecoming, dances, sports banquets, class outings, camps, Science Olympiad and History Day. Any student receiving tuition assistance will receive financial assistance toward the cost of books and other miscellaneous expenses in proportion to the percentage of their award.

TRIPS

Study trips nationwide and abroad are part of Grade 8 Discovery Week and Upper School Global Studies and Interim Session. Students who receive need-based tuition assistance receive proportional financial assistance for trips. Any family may apply for additional trip aid. Aid will be apportioned based on the number of requests received and funds available. Assistance will be available for each student for the Grade 8 Discovery Week and for one trip during a student's four years of Upper School. Trips other than these are not eligible for financial aid.

IMPORTANT DATES

The PFS can be completed online at sss.nais.org beginning Nov. 2, 2015

Tuition assistance deadline for returning students:
Dec. 15, 2015

Tuition assistance deadline for prospective students:
Feb. 1, 2016

For more information, please contact Jacquie Wilson, Director of Enrollment, at jwilson@francisparker.org or 858 / 569-7900 ext. 4405.

TRANSPORTATION



Families are invited to simplify their morning and afternoon routines by taking advantage of Parker's student bus service. Stops are conveniently located across San Diego County, making it a breeze to get to and from school.

To ensure student safety, each bus in Parker's fleet is equipped with the latest safety features, including well-padded high-back seats and a three-point lap/shoulder seat belt for each rider. All of our drivers also undergo comprehensive safety certification training and testing on an ongoing basis.

Riding the bus is environmentally friendly. It's a simple but effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve traffic congestion. One school bus typically takes 36 cars off the road, according to the American School Bus Council. All of our buses exceed new bus emission regulations.

For 2015-2016, the annual bus fee is \$750 per student or \$1,000 per family for unlimited ridership from any location Parker serves.

INTERCAMPUS SHUTTLE SERVICE

Many of our families have students on both the Mission Hills Campus and the Linda Vista Campus. For their convenience, we offer shuttle service between the two campuses in the morning and in the afternoon.

For more information, visit www.francisparker.org/transportation





FRANCIS
PARKER
SCHOOL

est. 1912

www.francisparker.org

Mission Hilla Campus
Lower School
4201 Randolph Street
San Diego, CA 92103

Linda Vista Campus
Middle/Upper School
6501 Linda Vista Road
San Diego, CA 92111