



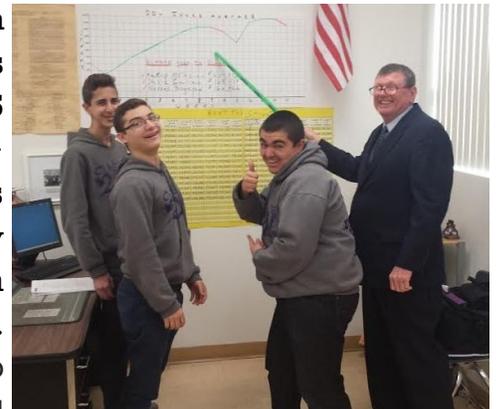
ADS eNewsletter

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Winners of "Investment Club"

Every October 1st, the senior students at TCA Arshag Dickranian School participate in an educational project created by their Economics teacher Mr. Ron Morrissey called the "Investment Club". At the beginning of the project, each student receives mock money for the sum of \$100,000 which he or she is instructed to invest in stocks, bonds, real estate and bank certificates of deposit. The students track their investments for 15 weeks on a weekly basis and then create a spread sheet showing the earnings and losses made. At the end of 15 weeks, the 3 top earners win a dinner at the Marina Del Rey Tony P's Dockside Restaurant which they attend at the end of the year with their teacher Mr. Ron Morrissey. This year's winners are Hagop Mkhsian who earned \$224,472, David Sulian who earned \$168,034 and Nerses Bogosyan who earned \$162,866.



"Learn from yesterday,
live for today,
hope for tomorrow."
{Albert Einstein}



The students enjoy this project since it gives them the chance to use their own creativity by making their choices and to learn how the investment process works hands-on rather than learning it from a theoretical perspective only.

The project also offers the students the opportunity to think like businessmen and businesswomen and it gives them a taste of the competition, the risks and stakes and the satisfaction that comes along with different business ventures.

Congratulations to the winners! We are proud of you!

Teacher Profile

Kindergarten Teacher Mrs. Aline Bzdigian

Mrs. Aline Bzdigian is the new Kindergarten teacher at TCA Arshag Dickranian School. She has over 24 years experience as a teacher. Born in Beirut, she graduated from Nshan Palandjian Jemaran and received her bachelor's degree in Education and Mass Media. She moved to the United States shortly after to continue her education, where she obtained her Master's degree in Journalism. She has worked as a reporter for "The California Courier" and has held various teaching positions at Armenian and American Schools teaching students ranging from Pre-K to High School. She has taught French, Armenian, Journalism, Drama and core subjects to elementary and middle school.

Besides being the Kindergarten teacher at ADS, she is the Principal at ARS's Saturday School for Armenian Language and has served as the Chairperson of Glendale Hamazkayin Educational and Cultural Association for the past 5 years. Mrs. Bzdigian has also written 8 Armenian books for children. Her books are used for extra-curricular reading programs in Armenian schools.



Elementary Teacher Mrs. Lusine Attaryan- Asatryan

Mrs. Lusine Attaryan-Asatryan has served at Arshag Dickranian School for almost 10 years and is currently the homeroom teacher for 5th grade.

Mrs. Attaryan-Asatryan chose Education as her profession because she always loved children and knew she could make a difference in their learning process. While in college, she learned the different methodologies that could be used to make content more clear to students. She also learned how to teach students with different learning disabilities, different learning styles, and to second language learners.

After she earned her Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies from Cal State University Northridge, she decided to get her Teaching Credentials in Multiple Subjects, enabling her to teach grades Kindergarten through 8th.

In 2005, she started working at Arshag Dickranian School where she became the homeroom teacher for 2nd grade until year 2012. She also taught English, Mathematics, Social Studies to 3rd graders and Mathematics to 1st graders. Throughout the years at Dickranian School, she was also the Textbook Coordinator, Test Facilitator and Supervisor.

In 2010 Mrs. Attaryan-Asatryan chose to go back to school and received a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. "I take pride in educating Armenian students at Dickranian School," she says. "People who know me recognize the love I have for teaching, including my current and previous students. My goal as an educator is to inspire students to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens."



... A Letter To The Principal

Dear Dr. Seraydarian,

I would like to express my appreciation to Ms. Tascian-Williams, I am extremely happy that our school has a wonderful teacher like her. Ms. Tascian-Williams wrote an outstanding letter of recommendation for my kids last week. It left me astonished, I am extremely happy that my kids have a wonderful teacher like her, she has taught them a lot of things over the past few months. The boys applied to the hospital over the summer, but did not get accepted because the hospital didn't have any available positions. The letter of recommendation that she wrote played a huge role in getting my kids accepted into their volunteering job. This hospital is extremely strict and well organized, and they select very few amounts of teen volunteers. That is why I am extremely happy that she is helping them. I am thankful that she came to this school. She has already done more things for the students, than all the previous school counselors. She helped them rearrange all their volunteering hours documents, and she is doing a great job on preparing the children for their AP English exams. She is already organizing my older son's class, and is preparing their applications for all the colleges, and universities that they plan to apply to next year. She has really done more for these students than past counselors. I am also looking forward to all the trips she is organizing for the students to visit other Universities to help expand their choices of Universities that they would like to apply to next year. A lot of parents including me are happy that she is organizing trips like this, and we plan to go with the students to all upcoming trips.

Appreciate your time

Best Regards,

Z. K.
(Parent)

Environmental Conservation Club

On Wednesday, January 29, Jeff Miele and Wendy Flores of the Hollywood/ Los Angeles Beatification Team visited the Environmental Conservation Club at Arshag Dickranian School. They talked to the 10th grade students about all kinds of things regarding the environment, especially how it, as a whole, is positively affected by the program. The students were taught how to better the Earth by conserving energy and planting trees. They were also taught how to differentiate between various types of trees by their branches and leaves. To conclude the presentation, the students were led outside and shown a mixture of trees in the vicinity. This program will run for 12 weeks and the overall outcome is for the tenth grade class to plant trees and flowers at Arshag Dickranian school.

The purpose for the **Environmental Conservation Club (E.C.C.)** is to promote awareness of the current state of our environment and to educate Arshag Dickranian students on how to go "greener". This club is open to all students who have an interest in making our community a healthier place. Environmental Conservation Club meets every Wednesday from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Our Goals

- Maintain the plastic recycling program
- Continue to educate our school community
- Provide activities and education during Earth Week
- Collect used magazines and donate them to local shelters
- Field trip to clean up a local park and then go hiking, canoeing/ kayaking
- Plant trees and plants.

Model United Nations Class Offered At TCA ADS

Model United Nations is an exciting mix of debating, international relations and role-playing. Imagine being an ambassador to the United Nations, working on a plan to tackle the challenges of population growth, or defuse a crisis in South Ossetia and you'll begin to get an idea what Model UN involves. While originally Model UN solely focused on the simulation of UN organs such as the Security Council or World Health Organization, it has since grown to encompass an entire spectrum of possibilities: from international courts of law and regional bodies, crisis cabinets and historical interpretations. In Model UN participants act as delegates to these bodies, known as committees. During committee, delegates discuss a topic of international concern, and work to produce a solution or agreement (in the form of a resolution) that embodies as many of the perspectives of the participants as possible. Model UN doesn't just involve giving speeches to a room of peers. You will work formally and informally to write proposals, negotiate terms and gain the support and votes of other delegates. It is a great opportunity to employ and develop a diverse range of communication, research, teamwork, leadership, networking and critical thinking skills, while learning about the reality of multilateral relations and the United Nations.

Journalism Club

The **Journalism Club** is responsible for publishing the *Dickranian Lions*, the monthly school newspaper. Students meet to learn about the fundamentals of the journalism process from planning articles to writing stories and securing artwork to publishing the paper. Members participate in all aspects of the editing/publishing process, developing new skills, and mastering old ones. The Journalism Club is open to students who are committed to insightful, responsible journalism.

TCA ADS Awarded Certificate of Affiliation of The National Junior Honor Society

At the beginning of December 2013, TCA Arshag Dickranian School received the "Annual Certificate of Affiliation" from the National Junior Honor Society. The certificate was awarded to the school based on its distinctive role in recognizing and promoting the qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, character and citizenship. The school is proud for receiving such recognition by the National Junior Honor Society which is a program of the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Midterms

The midterms took place from Tuesday, January 21st to Thursday, January 23rd. Junior high and high school students were supervised by teachers in the Walter and Laurel Karabian Hall as they took their tests. The 3rd Quarter started on the 27th of January.

Announcements

- The school will be closed on Monday, February 17th in observance of Presidents' Day and also on Friday, February 28th in observance of St. Vartanantz Day.
 - On Thursday, February 27, we will have a cultural program in observation of St. Vartanantz. Details will be provided soon.
 - On Thursday, February 20th, the sophomores, juniors and seniors will go on a trip to Pepperdine University.
 - The school's 33rd Annual Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday, March 22nd.
 - The school's Mother's Day Fashion Show will take place on Sunday, May 4th.
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