

# Francis Parker School

## School Profile

2020-2021

CEEB code number: 052843

### MISSION STATEMENT

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.

### ADMINISTRATION

Kevin Yaley, Head of School  
Carrie Dilmore, Interim Head of Upper School  
Andy Losier, Interim Assoc. Head of Upper School  
Chris Sanders, Director of Enrollment  
Paul Esch, Senior Class Dean  
Dr. Rai Wilson, Junior Class Dean  
John Morrison, Interim Sophomore Class Dean  
Rachel Krause, Freshman Class Dean  
Dr. Stacey Patsko, Dean of Students

### COLLEGE COUNSELING

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### The School and Community

Founded in 1912, Francis Parker School is San Diego's oldest and largest independent, non-denominational, coeducational day school. Located just 22 miles north of the international border, Parker draws a culturally and economically diverse student body from 80 zip codes throughout San Diego County and the Northern Baja region of Mexico. Parker's two campuses serve 1,313 students in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12 and 24 percent of the students receive financial aid. The Lower School—JK through Grade 5—resides on the Mission Hills Campus with 430 students attending. The Linda Vista Campus is home to 340 Middle School students in Grades 6 to 8 and 543 Upper School students in Grades 9 to 12. The Class of 2021 has 127 students.

Students seeking admission to Parker are evaluated on past academic achievement and good citizenship records (as indicated on transcripts from the applicant's previous school and by letters of recommendation), ability (evidenced by standardized tests in reading and math), and a personal interview with the applicant and his or her parent(s).

### College Counseling Philosophy

With the Parker community, we support, encourage, and celebrate the educational journey of each student. 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 decisions about their future. Counselors offer guidance to students as they seek the appropriate fit for college based on personal criteria and interests. We encourage a healthy student-led, educationally-based, and family appropriate approach to the college search. To facilitate a smooth transition to life after Parker, our goal is to provide a solid foundation upon which they can become self-reliant, empowered, confident, involved members of society, and engaged citizens of the world.

### Accreditation/Memberships

The School is accredited by or holds membership in the following organizations: California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), Western Association for College Admission Counseling (WACAC), Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS) and College Board.

### Diversity

At Parker, we know our learning is enhanced by the different stories, backgrounds, and experiences of each member of our School community. We aim to educate our students to value and embrace the enriching roles of culture, identity, similarities, and differences. The demographics within our Upper School community strengthens us all and represents 42 percent students of color.

### Faculty

Francis Parker School employs 133 teaching faculty with 88 holding advanced degrees (master's and above). On average, individual Parker faculty and staff have served in the field of education for 16 years. The student-faculty ratio at Parker is 8-to-1 in Upper School.



### Academics

Beginning with the 2017 fall term, the Upper School shifted from reporting grades on a full-year basis to a trimester-based assessment. First trimester grades for seniors are available for review during the last week of November.

Francis Parker School does not rank students numerically because of our highly academic nature and small class size. Instead, individual weighted grade point averages are reported. Grade point average is based on all courses (except Life Skills and Physical Education) taken at Parker from Grades 9 to 12. Courses taken for Credit (CR) and Pass (P) are not computed in the grade point average.

### Graduation Requirements

Students in Grades 9 to 12 generally take five academic courses and an elective each term. Although students typically take four years each of English, world language, mathematics, science, and social studies, the minimum requirements for graduation from Parker include the satisfactory completion of four years of English, three successive years of the same world language, three years of mathematics (two years of algebra and one year of geometry), three years of science (biology, chemistry, and physics), three years of social studies, two years of art, 12 credits of physical education/athletics, and the completion of four annual interim programs.

### Community Engagement

Engagement Parker encourages students to move off-campus and work with the surrounding community in need. Above all, community engagement, in addition to service, is at the center of our student’s efforts to develop community awareness, leadership, and civic responsibility. Traditionally, Parker’s Upper School students contributed more than 12,700 hours of service to the greater San Diego community. However, the global pandemic has forced us to embrace safe forms of community engagement for the upcoming academic year. As a result, during the 2020-21 school year, students can earn hours for most on-campus, virtual, remote, and neighborly activities in addition to traditional methods. The focus of the 2020-21 school year will be caring, service, and good citizenship. A minimum of 20 hours of engagement is required for the year. This unprecedented time will focus the students’ concern less on “how” and more on “why” as we continue to work with the community at large.

### Interim Program

Since 2010, the Parker Interim Program has used the diverse talents, interests, and experiences of our faculty to expose students to various alternative learning experiences, including special interest projects, internships, and travel abroad. Traditional classes are paused for a week in the spring to accommodate the Interim Program.

#### GRADING SCALE

LETTER GRADE	PERCENTILE	REGULAR COURSE	AP & HONORS
A+	97-100	4.33	5.33
A	93-96	4.00	5.00
A-	90-92	3.67	4.67
B+	87-89	3.33	4.33
B	83-86	3.00	4.00
B-	80-82	2.67	3.67
C+	77-79	2.33	3.33
C	73-76	2.00	3.00
C-	70-72	1.67	2.67
D+	67-69	1.33	1.33 (not weighted)
D	63-66	1.00	1.00 (not weighted)
D-	60-62	0.67	0.67 (not weighted)
F	0-59	0.00	0.00 (not weighted)

#### National Merit Program

With their performance on the PSAT during their junior year, nine members of the Class of 2021 earned Semi-Finalist status in the National Merit Program. An additional 14 students in the class were recognized as Commended Scholars.

#### TEST RESULTS - MEANS

Redesigned SAT	Class of 2020
Reading/Writing	684
Mathematics	685
<b>ACT</b>	<b>Class of 2020</b>
Composite	31.7

Due to the pandemic, most students in the Class of 2021 have not taken the SAT or ACT.

#### Cumulative GPAs through Junior Year for Class of 2021

Highest Weighted GPA 4.96  
 Highest Unweighted GPA 4.20

## Advanced Placement Program

In May 2020, Francis Parker School students took 722 AP exams, with 86% scoring a 3 or above. The 127 students who comprise the Class of 2021 scored 3 or above in 92% of their exams from last spring.

### HONORS COURSES

Students must be recommended for Honors courses based upon achievements in previous, related disciplines.

#### Arts

Instrumental Ensemble 1, 2, 3, 4  
Lancer Orchestra 1, 2, 3  
Theatre 2, 3, 4

#### English

English 12

#### Computer Science

Advanced Programming 1, 2  
Advanced Robotics Programming 1, 2

#### Mathematics

Geometry  
Algebra 2  
Pre-Calculus  
Multivariate Calculus & Linear Algebra

#### Science

Engineering 1, 2, 3  
Physiology

#### Social Studies

Global History 2

#### World Languages

French 3, 4  
French Literature & Culture  
Mandarin Chinese 3, 4  
Mandarin Chinese Language & Culture 1, 2  
Spanish 3, 4  
Spanish Literature & Culture 1, 2

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Students must be recommended for AP courses based upon achievements in previous, related disciplines.

#### Art

Studio Art: 2D Design  
Studio Art: Drawing

#### English

English Language & Composition

#### Computer Science

Computer Science A

#### Mathematics

Calculus AB  
Calculus BC  
Statistics

#### Science

Physics 1  
Physics 2  
Physics C - Mechanics  
Physics C - Mechanics, Electricity & Magnetism  
Chemistry  
Biology  
Environmental Science

#### Social Studies

Psychology  
U.S. History  
Government & Politics: U.S.  
Economics  
Art History

#### World Languages

Spanish Language & Culture  
French Language & Culture

## FRANCIS PARKER SCHOOL'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

### Grading Changes for 2019-2020 Trimester 3

With the move to online instruction and learning posing its share of obstacles, Parker instituted a final trimester grading policy whereby the student would earn the average of the first two trimester grades as long as they were achieving at the C level or higher. Of course, if the student earned a grade in the third term that was higher than the average of the first two terms, that student would keep the higher grade from the third trimester as the final evaluation recorded for that class. Of the 808 grades tallied by the students from the Class of 2021 in the third trimester last year, 43% of the marks earned were at least a half grade higher than the average of the first two terms. Most of the remaining grades earned in that last trimester were truly the average of the earlier trimesters.

### Adjustments for 2020-2021 School Year

With the goal of having some instruction taking place on campus, the School employed countless safety and health measures to prepare for the opening of the 2020-2021 academic calendar. On September 1, 2020, San Diego County was officially removed from the State's watchlist for COVID-19, enabling certain schools to conduct classes in-person as they saw fit. Parker's plan for the current academic calendar is to utilize a blended model of instruction. Students from our Middle and Upper Schools alternate days when they can be on campus to reduce health risks. When the Upper School students can be on campus, they are separated into grade-level cohorts of no more than 15 students. That is the maximum capacity in the classrooms while keeping an appropriate distance between desks. Students have the option of participating in their classes in-person during their designated campus days, or they may log into those classes from home. All classes taught from campus are streamed so that the at-home learners can appreciate the same experience in real-time.

As a result of creating grade-level cohorts, the following courses were removed from this year's offerings: AP European History, AP Literature & Composition, Creative Writing, and Human Geography.

# College Matriculation

2017-2020

## College Matriculation for the Classes 2017-2020

Overall, 497 students attend 149 different colleges in 36 states, Washington, D.C., and three countries outside the U.S.

American University	George Washington University	Saint Bonaventure University	University of Miami
Amherst College	Georgetown University	Saint John's University, New York	University of Michigan
Arizona State University	Georgia Institute of Technology	Saint Mary's College of California	University of Minnesota
Babson College	Gettysburg College	San Diego Mesa College	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Bard College	Global College at Long Island University	San Diego State University	University of Notre Dame
Barnard College	Gonzaga University	Santa Clara University	University of Oregon
Bates College	Grinnell College	Santa Monica College	University of Pennsylvania
Baylor University	Harvard University	Scripps College	University of Puget Sound
Benedictine College	Harvey Mudd College	Seattle University	University of Redlands
Boston College	Hillsdale College	Smith College	University of Saint Andrews
Boston University	Humboldt State University	Southern Methodist University	University of San Diego
Brown University	Indiana University	Southwestern College	University of San Francisco
Butler University	Johns Hopkins University	Stanford University	University of Southern California
California Polytechnic State University, SLO	Lehigh University	Swarthmore College	University of Texas
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona	Lewis & Clark College	Syracuse University	University of the Pacific
California State University, Sacramento	Loyola Marymount University	Texas Christian University	University of Virginia
California State University, San Marcos	Loyola University Chicago	The New School	University of Washington
California State University, Stanislaus	Maryland Institute College of Art	Trinity College	University of Wisconsin
Carnegie Mellon University	Marymount California University	Trinity College, Dublin	University of Wyoming
Catholic University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Tufts University	Vanderbilt University
Chapman University	Michigan State University	Tulane University	Wake Forest University
Claremont McKenna College	Michigan Technological University	United States Coast Guard Academy	Washington University, Saint Louis
College of Charleston	Middlebury College	United States Military Academy	Wesleyan University
Colorado College	Montana State University, Bozeman	United States Naval Academy	Wheaton College
Colorado State University	Muhlenberg College	University of Arizona	Whitman College
Columbia University	New York University	University of California, Berkeley	Willamette University
Cornell University	Northeastern University	University of California, Davis	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Dartmouth College	Northern Arizona University	University of California, Irvine	Xavier University Louisiana
Davidson College	Northwestern University	University of California, Los Angeles	Yale University
DePaul University	Oberlin College	University of California, Riverside	
DigiPen Institute of Technology	Occidental College	University of California, San Diego	
Dillard University	Ohio State University	University of California, Santa Barbara	
Drake University	Pepperdine University	University of California, Santa Cruz	
Drexel University	Pitzer College	University of Chicago	
Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne	Point Loma Nazarene University	University of Colorado, Boulder	
Elon University	Pomona College	University of Denver	
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical, Daytona Beach	Princeton University	University of Hawaii	
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical, Prescott	Principia College		
Emerson College	Providence College		
Emory University	Purdue University		
Fordham University	Reed College		
	Rice University		