

SCHOOL PROPOSAL

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Assyrian American Christian School (AAC) Tarzana, California (Junior High and High School)

AAC Committee

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April 2005

What is the Current Status of High Schools?

First, Education Status;

In the Los Angeles Unified School District, just 39% of Latinos and 47% of African Americans graduating, compared with 67% of whites and 77% of Asians.

LA Times, April 5, 2005

The troubling graduation rates are most alarming in minority communities, where students are more likely to attend what researchers call "dropout factories."

LA Times, April 5, 2005

UCLA researchers noticed one troubling pattern in Los Angeles Unified: Most students who leave high school do so between **9th and 10th** grades.

Harvard University report concluded that the public remains largely unaware of the true extent of the problem in Public Schools because the state of California uses "misleading and inaccurate" methods to report dropout and graduation rates.

LA Times, April 5, 2005

What is the Current Status of High Schools?

Second, Behavioral Status;

- **Teen Suicide Rate:**
Survey data from 1999 indicate that 19.3% of high school students had seriously considered attempting suicide, 14.5% had made plans to attempt suicide, and 8.3% had made a suicide attempt during the year preceding the survey.

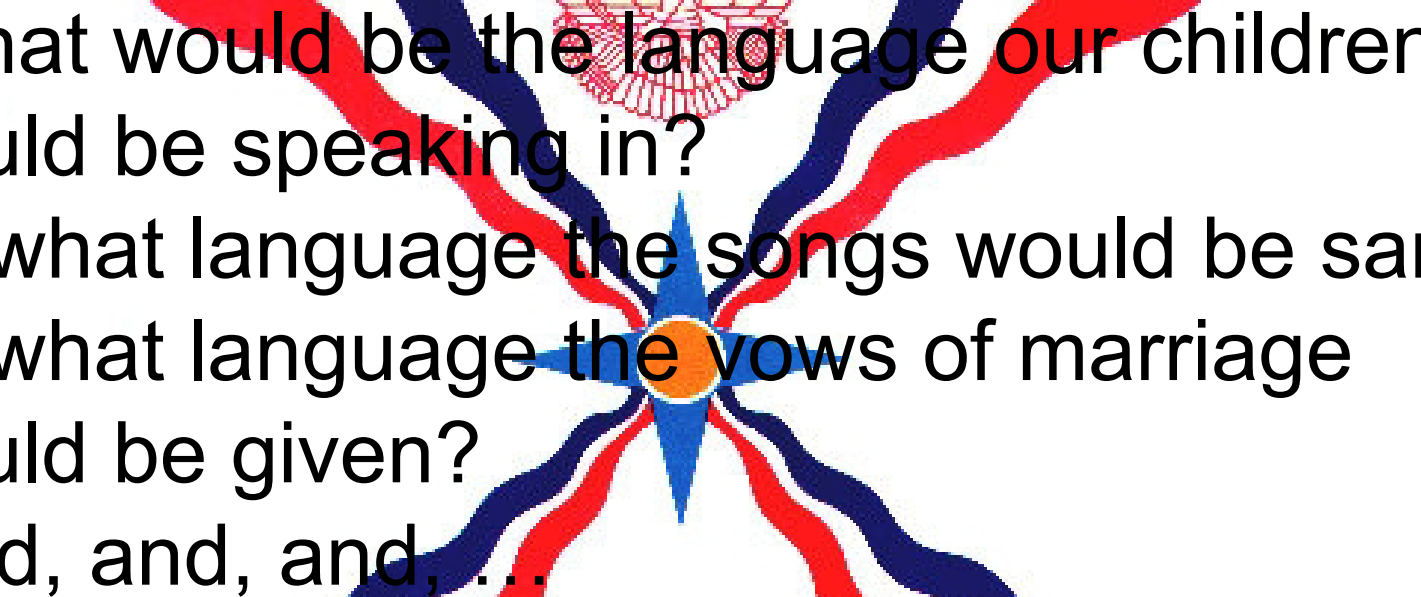
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2000). Youth risk behavior surveillance, 1999.

- **Teen Sexual Activity**
 - In 2001, 46% of high school students (grades 9-12) reported ever having had sexual intercourse.
 - Overall, male high school students (49%) were more likely than female students (43%) to have had sex.
 - Fourteen percent of high school students reported four or more sexual partners in 2001.

Centers for Disease Control and prevention, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey, 2001.)



And if WE DON'T have our OWN school;

- 
- ✘ What would be the language our children would be speaking in?
 - ✘ In what language the songs would be sang?
 - ✘ In what language the vows of marriage would be given?
 - ✘ And, and, and,

Who would we be?



Here is One Solution:

Assyrian

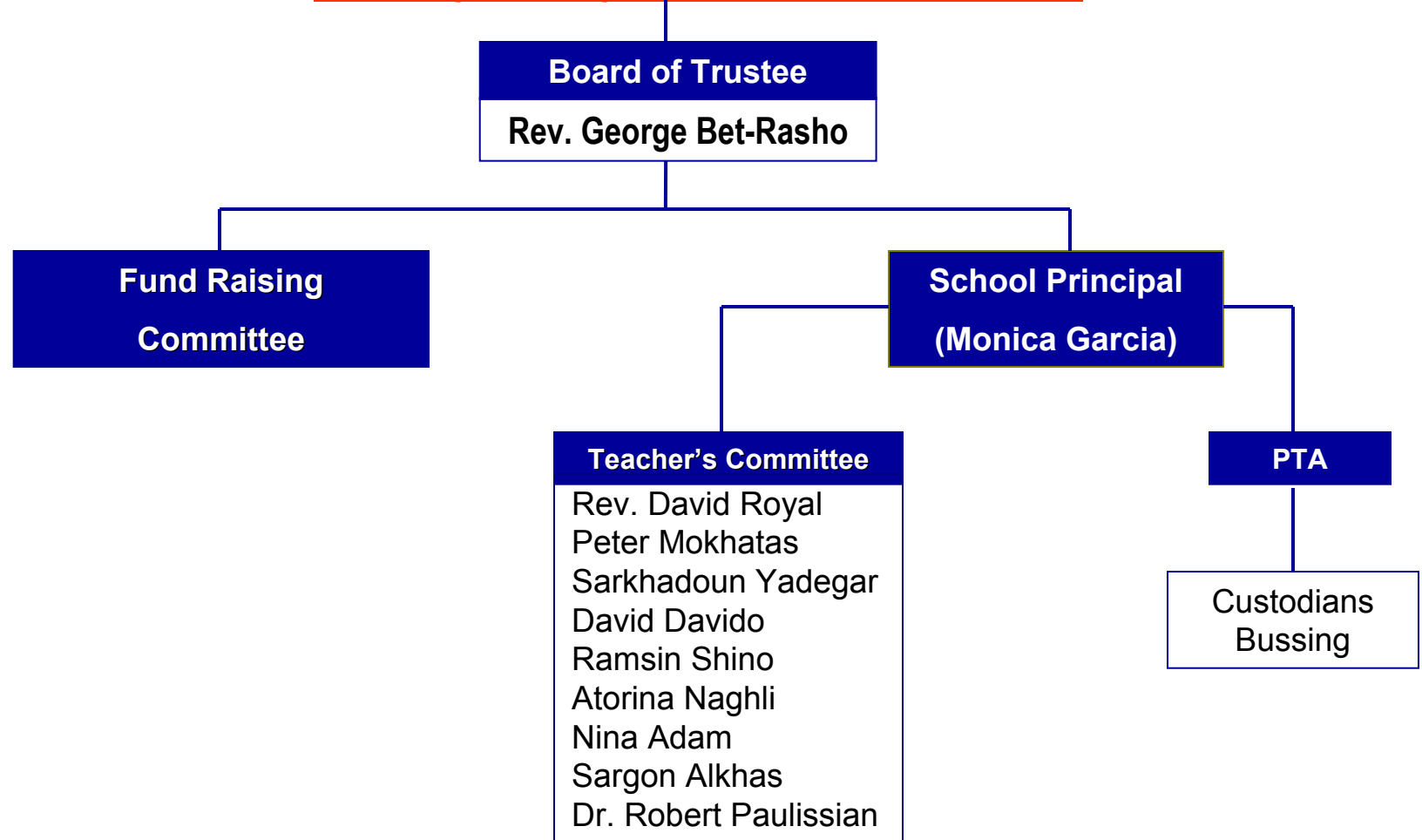
American

Christian

School

School Organization Chart

St. Mary's Assyrian Church of the East





Fund Raising Committee's Task Force

The Purpose of this Committee is to Raise Funds Through:

- Various Assyrian Organizations (i.e. Assyrian Civic clubs and Assyrian Churches)
- Non-Assyrian Organizations (i.e. Oil Companies; Churches; Computer Companies; other Non-Profit Organizations)
- Parties
- Donations From Various Assyrian and Non-Assyrian Individuals
- Enrollments
- Sales of Books
- Assyrian Church of the East
- Monthly Contribution Fund

Teachers' Committee Task Force

The purpose of this Committee is to:

- Identify, Interview and Hire Teachers
- Prepare the School Curriculum
- Prepare Various Guidance Documents for the School

Proposed Budget for School

Major Assumptions		
Number of Students	98	Grades: 6-12, 14 student / grade
Facility square footage	6,370	65 ft ² per student
Student:teacher ratio	14:01	
Average teacher salary	\$32,500	
Revenues		
Enrollments	\$274,400	Tuition of \$300 per student
Sales of Books	\$31,850	\$325 per student per year
Assyrian Church of the East	\$99,150	Expenditures marked as bold
Monthly Contribution Fund	\$120,000	1,000 donors at \$10 each (per year)
Christian organizations org.	\$150,000	15 organization at \$10,000 each
Other grants and fundraising	\$75,000	15 organization at \$5,000 each
Total Revenues	\$750,400	

Proposed Budget for School

Expenditure		
Salaries	\$396,500	Principal, Teachers, Instructors, Staff
Benefits	\$57,380	Retirement, Health, FICA, Other
Educational Supplies	\$42,650	Text and Assyrian books, software, Classroom supplies
Other Supplies	\$6000	Office and Maintenance
Services and Contracts	\$82,960	Custodial, book keeping, Legal, Insurance, Waste disposal, Student Testing, Staff development , Travel & Conference
Facilities and Capital	\$83,150	Rent, Furniture, Utilities, Phone, Security,
Total Expenditure	\$668, 640	
Surplus (Deficit)	\$81750	

Questions and Answers

Why a Junior High-High School?

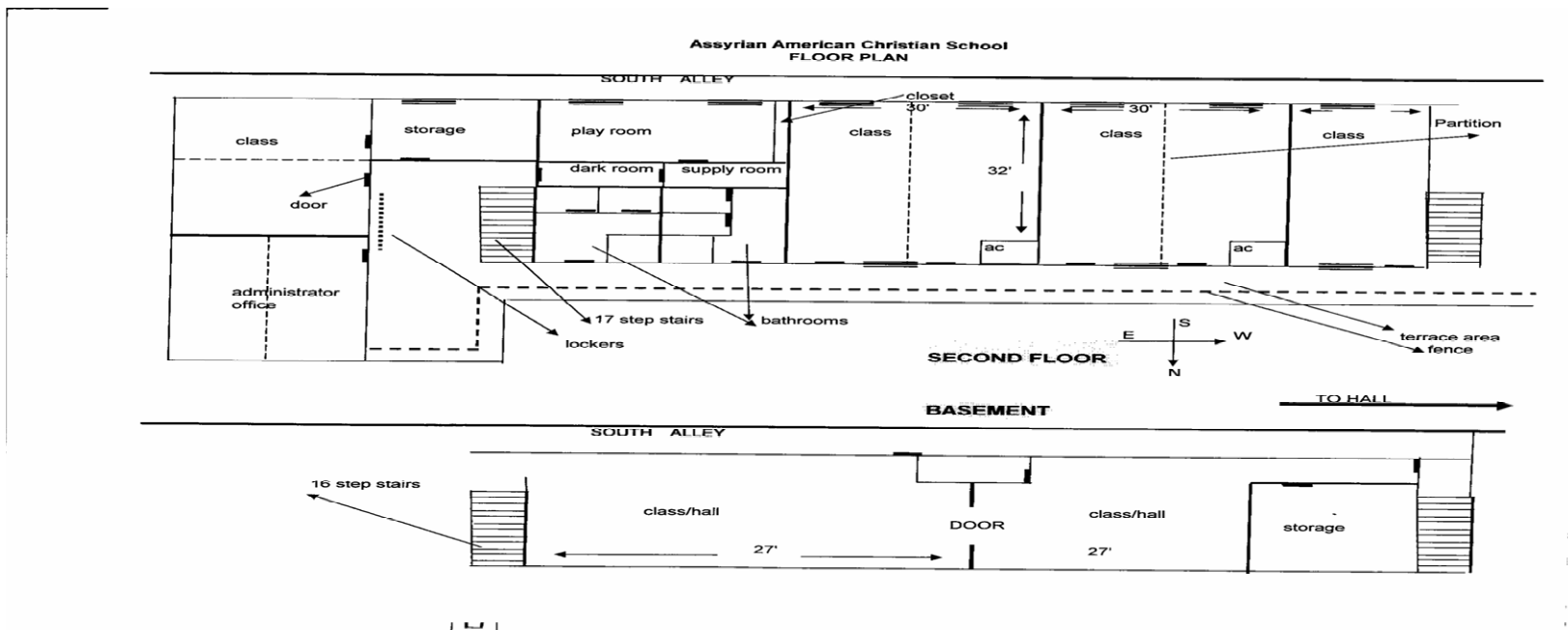
Question: Why Not an Elementary School?

Answer:

- **High School is More Important:**
 - Self identify, peer pressure, desire to belong, seeking independence from parents become more important to the teens not kids. Recent reports indicate that the latest fads in schools are drugs and homosexuality. A more controlled and healthy environment for our children during these years of their growth is more important.
- **Availability of Permit to operate as a High School:**
 - The Facility is currently permitted to operate as such. If we were going to open an elementary school, the facility had to be re-permitted and there was a possibility of not being able to obtain a permit and losing the current permit that we have.
- **Future Elementary School:**
 - A property adjacent to our current facility which currently is operating as a French elementary school is purchased. Our future plan is to take over the facility and turn it into an Assyrian elementary school.

School Facility

- *ܐܘܪܝܝܢܐ ܡܚܪܝܫܐ ܡܚܪܝܫܐ ܡܚܪܝܫܐ ܡܚܪܝܫܐ*
- **ASSYRIAN AMERICAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**
- PO BOX 18110, Encino, CA 91416
- Encino, CA 91416
- (818) 996-5173



Question:

Why in Tarzana, California and not other locations, such as Turlock, CA?

Answer:

We already have the school building and an operating permit. Furthermore, building maintenance is currently being financed by our church. At other locations, we would have to build a school structure and obtain a permit. Our Assyrian community at this point is unable to afford such an undertaking.

Question:

How much is the school tuition?

Answer:

\$300 a month. However,

**NO ASSYRIAN CHILD WILL BE DENIED
ADMITTANCE DUE TO FINANCIAL
HARDSHIP.**



Questions and Answers

Transportation

Question:

How will the kids get to school every day, since our people are so decentralized?

Answer:

Most of our members live within $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour from the school. Only 1% of our members live in other counties (i.e. Orange County). Based on the geographic location of the students, we will set-up bus stations. Parents can Bring their kids to the nearest bus stop and we will pick them up with our school buses and will bring them to school. If even there is one kid at a certain location, our busses will come and pick him/her up. We are willing to make The sacrifice and hope you will too.

Questions and Answers

Teachers

Question:

Who are our Teachers?

Answer:

We are currently interviewing and hiring teachers. Table below presents the current teachers:

Teacher's Name	Education	Curriculum Assignment
Reverent David Royal	PhD	Assyrian Language and Religion
Peter Mokhatas	M.S.	English, History, and Assyrian History
Sarkhadoun Yadegar	M.S.	Science and Math
David Davido		Physical Education
Ramsin Shino		Spanish
Atorina Naghli		French and German
Nina Adam		Art (Design)
Sargon Alkhas		(Advisor)
Dr. Robert Paulissian (Advisor)		(Advisor)

Question:

Why would any teacher want to leave his/her good job at a public or other private schools and want to teach at our school (a beginner school with no history)?

Answer:

Let me quote J.F.K. "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

One could say the same applies to our teachers, those amongst us that Will Do something for our nation.

Question:

What will be the teachers' salaries and how are we going to pay for it?

Answer:

We will pay our teachers the current market rate. We will offer them the same benefit package as those commonly offered in other public and private schools, such as vacation, holidays, sick days, personal days, 401-K, medical insurance, workers compensation insurance, professional and general liability insurance, etc.

Question:

How are we going to pay for them?

Answer:

As with all the schools in this country, we will pay for them through tuition and fund raising events.

Questions and Answers

Curriculums

Question: What are the curriculums?

Answer: Table below presents our proposed curriculum:

AACS	English	Science	History	Social studies	Art	PE	Math	Assyrian	Assyrian History	Religion
Grade 6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grade 7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grade 8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grade 9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grade 10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grade 11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grade 12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- The basic curriculum is in agreement with most public and private high schools. We would also provide Advance Program (i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Calculus) courses for the talented students. Also foreign languages and if resources are provided some vocational courses would be offered.

Questions and Answers

Sports, Music and Dance

Question: What are the extra curriculum activities?

Answer: Table below presents our proposed extra curriculum activities:

Sports	Music	Dance
Basketball	Piano	Assyrian
Volleyball	Guitar	Folklore
Soccer		
Tennis		

Attire

Question:

Will the children have to wear a school uniform?

Answer:

Yes. Uniforms have already been selected.
During the school registration, samples will be presented along with a price schedule.



Questions and Answers

School Status

Question

Answer

1. Will the school be accredited?

YES

2. Will it operate as a private school?

YES

3. Will non-Assyrians be allowed to attend?

YES

A blue background with a central image of a water droplet hitting a surface, creating concentric ripples that spread outwards.

Questions and Answers

School Status

Question:

Is the school subsidiary of the Church of the East?

Answer:

Yes.

Question:

Will all the classes be taught in Assyrian?

Answer:

No. With the exception of the Assyrian Language, all classes will be taught in English.



Questions and Answers

Students

Question: How many students are anticipated to be in each class?

Answer: 14

Question: Where are we going to bring our students from?

Answer:

1. Existing members of our church.
2. Assyrians from other churches (ie. Catholic, Presbyterian, etc.).
3. American students whom attending the previous school at this location.
4. Students living in close proximity of our school.



Why Should I Send My Kids to the Assyrian School?

Question:

Why should we take our kids from other schools with many amenities and register them in a start-up Assyrian school?

Answer:

This question should be answered by you. Only you can, in your heart, soul and conscious be able to answer this question for yourself. Why do you want an Assyrian School?

PLEASE HELP US START

School Starts in August of 2005.

Registration Starts:

From April 1, 2005 through August 2005.

Thank you.

Photos of our School and Children

