



FAQ: Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy*

What is the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy (Agassi Prep)?

Founded by the Andre Agassi Foundation for Education, the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy (Agassi Prep) is a public charter school that strives to provide underserved children in Las Vegas with a quality K-12 education to prepare them for excellence in college and beyond.

When did Agassi Prep open?

The school opened in 2001 with three grades and has expanded to become a K-12 college preparatory academy serving more than 600 students.

How many of your alumni are pursuing higher education?

We graduated our first senior class in June, 2009 with a 100% college acceptance rate.

Where is Agassi Prep located?

Agassi Prep is located in Clark County, NV, the nation's fifth largest school district. Our campus is at 1201 West Lake Mead Blvd. on the corner of "J" Street and West Lake Mead Boulevard.

What is Agassi Prep's relationship with Clark County School District (CCSD)?

Agassi Prep was founded as a public charter school in partnership with the Clark County School District. The CCSD and the State of Nevada monitor student achievement goals, as outlined in our charter. They also monitor the school's fiscal and operational management.

How is Agassi Prep governed?

A governing body meets each quarter to establish and oversee the school's policies and regulations. The 2009 Agassi Prep Governing Body consists of representatives from the Andre Agassi Foundation for Education and local business and educational leaders.

What differentiates Agassi Prep from other public schools in the CCSD?

As a public charter school, Agassi Prep has greater flexibility with its curriculum and its approach to learning. We emphasize academic rigor, with a school year that is 10 days longer than the Clark County School District, and a school day that's two hours longer.

Who can attend Agassi Prep and what are the criteria for student selection?

All Clark County residents are eligible to apply for admission. There are no entrance tests or tuition fees. Each January the school receives hundreds of applications, which are processed through a computer-based lottery. Though new students are selected purely by this lottery, there is a hierarchy of admissions criteria, with first preference given to siblings of current students and those who reside within a two-mile radius of the school. For additional information, please contact Agassi Prep at (702) 948-6000.

What are the general school demographics?

Agassi Prep serves more than 600 students. Approximately 95 percent are African-American, while the remainder of the student body comprises Asian, Caucasian and Hispanic students.

What are the Agassi Prep hours of operation and academic calendar?

Elementary, middle school and high school students attend classes from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Kindergarten students attend from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Agassi Prep also requires students to attend school on appropriate Saturdays for academic enrichment. Summer school is required for new Agassi Prep students and offered as an option for returning students.

What are Agassi Prep's "best practices?"

Best practices include an emphasis on smaller class sizes, more time on task, discipline and respect, teacher and parent accountability, teacher development and curriculum innovation through the use of technology.

In addition, Agassi Prep provides a disciplined setting where students learn to respect their classmates and instructors, as well as themselves. All students recite a "Code of Respect" every day. Teachers, parents and students each sign a contract of accountability, pledging their commitment to their roles in the learning process. Every educator, administrator and staff member is committed to helping students reach their full potential.

To reinforce this commitment, Agassi Prep holds all teachers directly accountable for their students' performance. All teachers and administrators sign yearly contracts; there is no tenure at Agassi Prep.

What subjects make up the core curriculum?

The core curriculum comprises English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies/history, foreign language, fine and performing arts, and physical education/health. There is an overarching focus on technology and college preparation. Involvement in community affairs and cultural activities are also part of the curriculum.

What extra-curricular activities are offered?

Our comprehensive after-school program includes fine arts and athletic activities, clubs, tutoring and homework help. Partnerships with business, civic and cultural institutions benefit our students and the community with programs, tools and equipment made possible by Andre Agassi's professional relationships.

What type of recognition has the school received?

The U.S. Department of Education has called Agassi Prep a "National Model" among charter schools and Agassi Prep has received both "Exemplary" and "High Achieving" designations from the State of Nevada Department of Education.

Do students wear uniforms?

Agassi Prep requires all students to wear a school uniform. Uniforms reflect the school's colors and enhance school spirit. They consist of logoed shirts, sweatshirts and cardigans; pants; skirts; jumpers; and ties. Wednesday is "Dress Up" day, when the students wear more formal uniform attire.

How is Agassi Prep funded?

Agassi Prep receives approximately \$6,400 per-pupil allotment from the State of Nevada. The Andre Agassi Foundation for Education funds the difference between this per-pupil allotment and the actual cost of educating a student at Agassi Prep.

What was the cost and timeline for construction?

The construction of Agassi Prep was performed in three phases at a total cost of \$40 million, which was financed through a bond with the City of Las Vegas and the Andre Agassi Foundation for Education. The Foundation has assumed full responsibility for interest and principal payments.

The first phase was the elementary school (opened in 2001); the second phase included the middle school, multi-purpose building and kindergarten addition (opened in 2003); the third phase included the high school and gymnasium (opened in 2007). Agassi Prep is the first K-12 public charter school in the community.

How can I support Agassi Prep?

You can support Agassi Prep by making a tax-deductible donation to the Andre Agassi Foundation for Education. The Andre Agassi Foundation for Education is a 501 (c) (3) organization and your donation is tax-deductible. Please consult your tax professional for additional information.

Please also visit the Foundation's website to learn about other ways to support our work.

* September 2009.