



## Overview

The *American Farm School* was founded in 1904 by the enlightened American educator Dr. John Henry House with his wife, Susan Adeline. AFS includes Pre-K, Elementary, Middle School, two High-Schools (General & Technical), and Perrotis College (post-secondary institution offering Bachelor's & Master degrees). Our research and demonstration farm serves as a living laboratory for students in all divisions (even Kindergarten).

AFS students primarily come from the rural mainland and islands throughout Greece, creating a uniquely diverse student body. Building on more than a century of tradition developing stewards of the land, AFS prepares future leaders who value the careful use of natural resources, preservation of the environment, application of life sciences for solving problems, and effective utilization of information technology.

The American Farm School was one of the first institutions worldwide established with an obligatory community volunteering component and our residential campus has allowed our philosophy to become a way of life.

## Grading System

- AFS uses an unweighted 20-point scale.
- Not all classes factor into the GPA.
- AFS does NOT assign class rank.

A (A+ to A-)	B (B+ to B-)	C (C+ to C-)	F
4.0 - 3.6	3.59 - 2.6	2.59 - 2.0	1.9 - 0
20-18	17.9 - 13	12.9 - 10	9.9 - 0

## Schedule

- **School year:** 2 semesters comprised of approximately 18 weeks.
- **School exams:** 10th-grade final exams are determined by the School's faculty [Mandatory]  
11th-grade final exams are determined by the Ministry of Education [Mandatory]  
12th-grade final exams are determined by the School's faculty [Mandatory]  
Panhellenics are determined by the Ministry of Education [Optional]
- **All classes, except English, are taught in Greek.**

## 2023-2024 STUDENT BODY

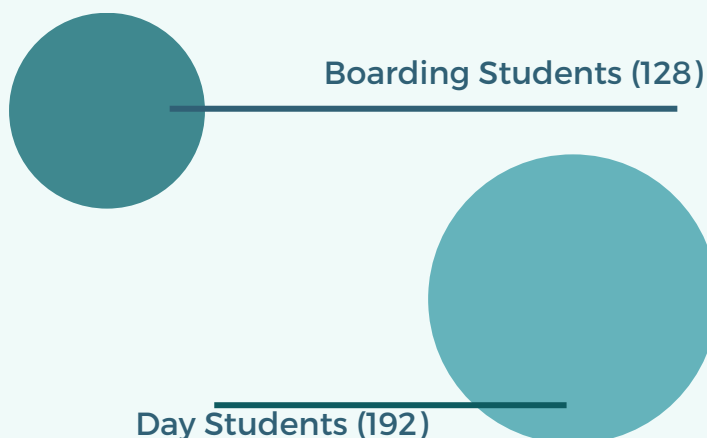
- 52.5% male, 47.5% female
- 100% of AFS high school students receive scholarships based on their academic profile and family income.
- 175 General High School students
- 145 Technical High School students
- More than 50% are from farming families or families with a significant relationship to agriculture or the agro-food industry.

### ENROLLMENT BREAKDOWN

(General High School and Technical High School)



- Entrance exams only for General High School's **Class of 2026** took place on May 13th, with the participation of 105 students, and **72** students were accepted.





## Project Farm

The educational farm provides an opportunity for AFS students to apply their classroom learning on a fully functioning farm. All students are required to participate in weekly practical and technical training throughout grades 10-12. Students receive a certificate upon graduation for their successful completion of this practical training/ community service program.

## Student Life

Our full academic program is enhanced by a wide variety of extracurricular & athletic activities reinforcing the strong traditions in Greek & American cultures and creating a strong sense of community on campus. Juniors & Seniors take advantage of on-campus leadership opportunities like our Residence Leaders Program and class elected Student Council. Most students participate in after-school clubs similar to those found in the USA. "Greek" clubs include our Traditional Greek Dance team, and more.

Student Life is uniquely enhanced by 3 American Post-Bachelor Fellows, who live and interact with students in a range of roles on campus.

## COLLEGE ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

### CLASS OF 2023

- **74** students in the class of 2023, **34** General high school students and **40** Technical high school students
- **100%** of the General high school graduates who participated in the Panhellenic exams are now attending a four-year university
- **73%** of our Technical high school graduates participated in the PanHellenic exams and are now attending a four-year university
- **9** students are continuing their academic studies in the US

## AWARDS, NOMINATIONS, PARTICIPATION

- American Farm School has been awarded **twice** by the **Academy of Athens** (Greece's national academy, and the highest research establishment in the country). The last time was for "the education it provides to rural youth and for its contribution to the rural development of Greece since 1904"
- AFS High School has been awarded the **Green Flag of the Ecological School** from **The Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature** (HSPN), which is the national operator for the largest global sustainable schools program, "**Eco-Schools**" F.E.E. (Foundation of Environmental Education).

### 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Below you can find some of the many awards and nominations that our students have gained throughout the year

- **National High School Chemistry Competition.** 6 students, participated with one of them placing 2nd with a score of 98.5/100 and the rest of the students having notable participation in the competition.
- A group of seven students qualified for the finals of the **Panhellenic History competition** which will be held in October 2023 in Athens. The competition is organized by the Erasmios Hellenic German School in Athens, under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism.
- Our school hosted the **Masterclasses in Particle Physics** program for the 8th time, in partnership with CERN. Students from 172 schools, including AFS, attended the program. We are incredibly honored since AFS is the only high school campus in the country to host this program, which is usually held at universities.
- 15 students participated in the **8th annual Walk for Freedom.** Walk for Freedom is a collective effort with the aim of informing and combating modern slavery (trafficking). The students walked among thousands of other people in silence forming a line, giving a resounding message with each step.
- **Formula 1 in Schools.** Our students qualified for the national finals which will be held in October 2023. Our Team "Arcus Racing" is going to compete with 25 other teams in order to gain a spot in the world finals. Also, a second AFS team ("DEOS racing") has won the "Fair Competition" award in the national finals of the F1 in Schools competition.
- For the second year in a row, a team of 3 students from the AFS robotics club has qualified for the national final for the **34th European Young Scientists Competition.** The same team has been awarded at the 9th ACSTAC Science and Technology Student Conference with the «Action for Climate Change» award.
- Our Photography Club participated in the **25th Student Photo Exhibition** and got the third award among participants from 22 schools.
- Both high schools of AFS gathered **humanitarian aid for earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.**
- In the **Pan-Hellenic spelling competition in French "La Dictée Lavalloise"**, 2 of our students won 1st and 4th place.



## PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE



### MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Our distinguished MUN club offers its members the opportunity to attend various lectures, workshops, and conferences useful for their personal and academic development. Apart from the fact that we have several students that participate in regional events, we also had the pleasure to host the Thessaloniki Model United Nations (TMUN) on our campus for the past 7 years.



### ROBOTICS/ENGINEERING

The School's award-winning robotics team functions as a startup with students learning Lego programming (LEGO Mindstorms) and project management. They work in teams to build the robots, program them with a computer, and then the demonstration follows. The purpose is to learn to solve problems using mathematics, physics, engineering, and computer programming, as well as to prepare for their participation in competitions.



### SERVICE LEARNING

High school students participate in the **Peace Jam** volunteer club, and with their experiential actions, transmit the spirit of volunteering and inspire kids and adults. The members of the club volunteer with underserved or vulnerable social groups, and participate in service work with approved nonprofits in our city.



### STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The AFS exchange program has been running successfully for more than 40 years. We provide all students with the opportunity to travel across Europe because we believe it is the best way to broaden their horizons and apply their knowledge in a different country, culture, and language environment.



### WELLNESS

The office for academic learning support (**Arcadia Program**) supports students with learning differences through the use of alternative strategies and teaching methods. In addition, their professional staff provides psychosocial care to all of our students. The American Farm School participates in various organized athletic tournaments and organized competitions in the city and region. We have soccer, basketball, and volleyball teams.



### STEM

The STEM program at the American Farm School high schools is implemented through:

- The innovative program of afternoon science workshops in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology
- The participation of students in science competitions, such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, EUSO, Mathematics, Kangaroo.
- Organization of scientific workshops, such as the International Masterclasses in Elementary Particle Physics, in cooperation with **EKFE** (Laboratory Science Center) and **CERN**



### ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The high school students that are members of the Entrepreneurship club have the opportunity to get a glimpse of the business world and enhance their marketing skills. Our entrepreneurship team is participating in various competitions, one of them being the Junior Achievement Competition.



### LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **Peer Mediation.** After formal training from our Arcadia Program team, some of our students are equipped to mediate and resolve minor conflicts between their peers.
- **Residential Leaders.** This is a highly selective and competitive program, through which Juniors and Seniors act as orientation leaders, and during the school year, they organize weekend activities for our boarding students.

## 3 UNIQUE FACTS ABOUT AFS

- The USDA has only two full-time research programs in Europe - one in France and one on the AFS laboratories. Every summer, two of our Juniors have the opportunity to complete an internship in the USDA lab here on our campus.
- AFS is the oldest American-founded educational institution in Greece and was one of the first institutions to host a Fulbright Scholar (1948).
- AFS is recognized as a national leader in adult education, enrolling more than 700 adults annually in courses such as cheese-making, wine-making, beer-brewing, organic urban gardening, bee-keeping, snail-farming, and many more.



## GENERAL HIGH SCHOOL

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Secondary School core program offers girls and boys from throughout Greece an accredited general high school education with an innovative afternoon program focusing on practical skills in a full range of agricultural, technical and ecological subjects. Most students live in campus dormitories and all students follow an extracurricular program that reinforces strong traditions in both Greek and American cultures.

The program includes:

- morning curriculum as required by the Ministry of Education.
- afternoon science labs.
- afternoon practical training on the educational farm (once a week).
- an enhanced English language program.

### 10th Grade / 11th Grade

These two grades follow a general program of study, as has been settled to all high schools in Greece from the Ministry of Education.

### 12th grade

In this grade students have to select one out of the 4 Orientation Groups and to follow a sequence of subjects to complete their studies at the High School. The Orientation Groups are the following: Humanities Studies, Health Studies, Science Studies, Economic and Computer Studies.

If they wish, they are eligible to sit in Pan-Hellenic Exams on the three subjects of their chosen Orientation Group in addition to Modern Greek Language and Literature.

## TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Technical School (EPAL) of the American Farm School combines both high quality general education and professional training in the field of Agronomy, Food and Environment, in a stimulating and challenging real-world environment.

The program includes:

- morning curriculum as required by the Ministry of Education (theoretical and practical). The morning program is complemented by subjects related to the field of Agronomy, Food and Environment.
- afternoon practical training on the educational farm (twice a week).
- afternoon science labs.
- seminars/workshops for career advice and personal development.
- an enhanced English language program.

### 10th Grade

The 10th grade follows a general program of study, with special emphasis on understanding fundamental scientific concepts and providing general knowledge, which is necessary for the continuation of studies in more specialized areas.

### 11th Grade

The 11th grade consists of general education courses, but with greater emphasis on the fields of Agronomy, Food and the Environment. Students expand their knowledge of the field, with all subjects taught in the classroom, laboratories, and on the farm.

### 12th Grade

In addition to the general curriculum, 12th grade is divided into specialties within the fields of Agronomy, Food and Environment. Students choose from the following specializations: Plant Production, Animal Production, Food and Drink Technology, Botany and Landscaping.

If they wish, they are eligible to sit in Pan-Hellenic Exams on the three subjects of their chosen Orientation Group in addition to Modern Greek Language and Literature.