

La Mirada Academy



Parent & Student Handbook 2023-2024

Letter of Introduction

Dear Families,

Welcome to La Mirada Academy! We have an enthusiastic and talented staff that is eager to work with you and your child. We encourage your participation and support in all aspects of our school. Our mission statement below signifies the way we will support your child's education here at La Mirada Academy.

“La Mirada Academy is an environment in which all children have an equal opportunity to achieve academic excellence, develop a love of learning, and acquire skills to become responsible members of society. Our vision is for every student to receive a quality, standards-based education in a learning environment that will help them develop into responsible and global citizens of the future. We envision La Mirada as a place where every staff member feels valued and respected and where parents are encouraged to participate and be a partner in their child's education.”

This handbook has been designed to acquaint you with some of our school programs and policies. We hope that it will answer any questions you might have. If you need additional information, please call the school at 760-290-2000 or log on to our website at www.lamiradaacademy.smusd.org. This handbook may be updated at any time to address the immediate needs of the school campus.

Sincerely,

Dana Spencer, Principal

Kelly Ezzard, Assistant Principal

Juana Lopez, Assistant Principal

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ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES

State law requires regular and punctual attendance. Parents must report an absence when their student will miss school. For each day your child is absent, please call the attendance number **760-290-2000 and press 4**. Leave a message that states your student's name and the reason for the absence. Excused absences are those due to illness, a medical appointment, a court appearance, a death in the family, or a religious holiday. All other reasons will be unexcused. If an absence is not reported within 72 hours, it will be considered unexcused.

TARDY PROCEDURES

Late students must report to the office for a tardy pass prior to going to class. The Main gate for all students will close promptly at 8:15 when the bell rings (TK/K gate will close at 8:00a.m.). At this time, your child is considered tardy. Middle School students who are tardy during the school day to periods 2 through 7, will be assigned a "Friday Lunch" session, when this occurs 3 times or more. It is imperative that all students arrive on time to class and are ready to learn when the bell rings.

School administration monitors students who are chronically absent or tardy and will take appropriate steps to improve their attendance, enforcing state and district policies. Poor attendance or chronic tardies may lead to transfers being revoked.

SAFE ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

School begins at 8:00 a.m. for TK and K students and at 8:15 a.m. for 1st - 8th grade students. Students **may not** be on campus before 7:30a.m. **There is no supervision in front of school prior to 7:30am.** Gates will open at 7:30am for students who are eating breakfast. Students arriving by bike, scooter or skateboard can lock them in the secured area on campus designated for bikes. The school will not be liable for damages incurred while the bike, scooter or skateboard is on campus. Students need to walk with their bike, scooter, or skateboard while on campus. We do not allow shoes with wheels or motorized scooters. We ask for your cooperation in ensuring the safety of your child(ren). If you fail to cooperate, we are then warranted to contact Law Enforcement and/or file a report with Child Protective Services (CPS).

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop off and pick up will run smoothly if we all follow the procedures. Please use the designated sidewalks and crosswalks when walking to school. For car drop off in the drive thru, please pull all the way forward in order to keep traffic flowing. Students must be able to exit the car quickly and independently. It is important that students are picked up promptly after dismissal or have alternate arrangements, such as after school provided programs. If you fail to cooperate, we are then warranted to contact Law Enforcement and/or file a report with Child Protective Services (CPS).

CHANGE IN DISMISSAL PLANS

Students are expected to go directly home after dismissal. Arrangements for pickup must be made with your child before school. ***If a change in the normal routine is requested, a written note from the parents is necessary.*** Students may not leave school early unless they are signed out and picked up in the office by a parent, legal guardian, or other person authorized on the emergency card. The office must have all names of persons in writing, even relatives. A photo identification will be necessary at the time your child is signed out early. If a student leaves without being signed out, they are considered truant.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

If you should have a change of address, phone number, or emergency phone numbers, please notify the attendance office immediately at **760-290-2000 and press 4**. In the event your child becomes ill, is injured, or there is an emergency, authorized persons must be able to be contacted.

CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES

This year SMUSD is providing all students with free breakfast and lunch each day. Breakfast begins each morning at 7:30am. Menus can be located at www.smusd.org/departments/child_nutrition_services.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR PLANS

Each teacher has a specific classroom behavior plan. It incorporates teacher/student expectations, a positive reward plan for well-behaved students, and a hierarchy of consequences for students who break the rules. The plan also contains a “severe clause” for serious behavior issues. The Principal or Assistant Principals will address these issues. It is a school and district philosophy that the classroom teacher is the best person to manage student behavior. If you have a question regarding a discipline procedure, **please contact your child’s teacher first**. You should expect a Classroom Behavior Plan to be sent home and/or discussed with you within the first two weeks of school.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones are permitted on campus but must be turned off during class time and placed in backpacks or classroom pocket charts (grades 4-8). Students are not to use cell phones to contact home during school. All students who need to call home, must use school phones with permission from the teacher or staff during school hours. Students may not take photos, video, or audio recordings of students or staff without prior written consent. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 can use cell phones during their lunch break with the above policies in place. Electronic devices such as portable video game machines, I-Pods/MP3 Players, and cameras are not permitted at school. Please read the district’s [electronic responsible use policy](#) for further guidance. Neither the district, nor the school, will be liable for the theft or damage to any electronic device the student brings to school. Electronic devices are not permitted on field trips. Consequences for not following our school policy: Items may be retained in the Administrators’ office for pickup at the end of the student’s school day.

DRESS AND GROOMING AT SCHOOL

We are proud of the students at La Mirada Academy. Therefore, students are encouraged to **show pride** by coming to school well groomed. Clothes should be **appropriate for school activities**; this means they may not be educationally distracting or unsafe. Violations of the dress code will be determined by Administration and/ or an Administration Designee. Students will be provided clothes to change into if their outfit is deemed inappropriate.

DRESS CODE

- a) Clothing that promotes or glamorizes drugs, alcohol or tobacco products, or displays foul or inappropriate language or symbols is not permitted. Suggestive slogans or saying on clothing is not authorized.
- b) Footwear should adequately protect the feet and not interfere with required school activities, such as Physical Education. Shoes should have a closed toe and, at minimum, a strap on the back. Backless shoes, higher heels, and “flip-flops” are not recommended.
- c) Pants must fit well enough to stay up without support. Underwear should not be visible, even when the shirt is lifted. Pajama pants are not permitted.
- d) Students are permitted to wear shorts to school, shorts that are too revealing are not permitted. In addition, swim trunks/swim shorts are not appropriate for school.
- f) Clothing that is skimpy or revealing, tube tops, or tops that are strapless, see-through, low cut, or excessively expose the midriff are not permitted.
- g) Students may not wear clothing that denotes possible gang affiliation, that has individualized lettering or lettering that has been altered in any way. *Please note, clothing affiliated with gangs change according to current trends in popular culture and local influence. School administration has the final say on what is or is not allowed at school based on information from the law enforcement community.*
- h) Notebook covers and backpacks should be in good taste, have no writing or pictures that are obscene or inappropriate, or that denote “tagger” or gang affiliation.
- i) **Hat Policy:** Students are allowed to wear a hat outside for **sun or cold protection** under the following conditions:
 - Hats, visors, and beanies may be worn during recesses and P.E. only.
 - Hats, visors, beanies, and hoods **may NOT be worn inside** any classroom or building.
 - Hats and visors must be worn with the bill forward at all times and should have no writing or alterations.
- j) Jewelry, if worn, should not present a choking hazard, a distraction, or be sharp.
- k) Students may not wear clothing affiliated with professional sports teams or geographic wording, including: Chargers, Padres, Raiders, Dodgers, Lakers, Los Angeles, “LA”, San Diego, or “SD.” *unless there is a Student Council sponsored spirit day.

The school administration is the final authority when a difference of opinion arises. When a violation of the dress guidelines occurs, the student will be warned and required to correct it. Continued violations of dress guidelines will be considered defiance and will be referred for disciplinary action.

SCHOOL WIDE RULES

The school has rules in order to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all. Students not following school rules may have a consequence imposed in the classroom, on the playground and/ or may be referred to Administration. The complete SMUSD Behavior Code can be found here.

ESSENTIAL RULES



At LMA, the expectation is that staff and students:

- Are respectful of people and property.
- Maintain a safe and orderly environment.
- Use appropriate language at all times.
- Are NOT using cell phones during class time.
- Are NOT wearing hats, hoods, or eating food indoors.

Before School

All students go to lunch tables until dismissed to the playground

Students are not to be in hallways before school

When the bell rings, Middle School students **walk** to class immediately. Elementary students walk to their classroom meeting spot outside and will be greeted by their teacher.

Student

Be respectful

No Gum

No hats (hats, visors, beanies, hoods) worn in the classroom

No food indoors

Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself

Use appropriate language

Use manners (i.e. thank you, please)

Follow directions given by adults

Keep non-school items at home (i.e. sharpies, Heelies, toys, etc.)
Vandalism and graffiti are illegal and punishable by law, and/or suspension/expulsion.

Hallway

No Running
Keep voices down
Do not disturb other classes
Stay in line with your class
Do not enter hallways during lunches and recess
6-8- Passing period is a time to get to the next class- **no tardies**

Stairs

Walk on the right side
Do not skip or jump down the steps
Keep right hand or right elbow on railing

Outside

Walk until playground boundary-"walk on white"
Eat at the tables only
Pick up trash
Sit on the benches, do not stand on or jump off them
1-5- no climbing or jumping off the boundary walls (field area)
6-8- may sit on the boundary walls during recess time (field area)
TK/Kindergarteners play in Kindergarten play area only

Lunch

Sit with your class
Be patient and quick to select lunch choices in line
No candy, gum, or soda at school
Clean up after yourself
Raise your hand to be dismissed to recess

Restroom

Use the restroom only for intended purposes
Use during recess and lunch
If necessary to use during class, be quick to return to classroom
Keep restrooms clean

Pick Up

Walkers leave to walk home immediately
Sit on the sidewalk, wiggle walls, or benches with your class
Stay in your assigned area
Do not step inside of or climb on planter boxes, plants, trees, or fences
No food
4th Grade- 8th Grade may find their younger sibling's class and sit with them to wait for their ride
Do not walk out of the parking lot for your ride, you must be picked up in the loop or walk home

VISITORS ON CAMPUS

It is our sincere desire to make each parent of our school feel welcomed on campus and included in all aspects. Thank you in advance for giving our school the gift of your time! Visitors are required to sign in at the school office before entering the school grounds or classrooms. Visitors will receive an identification badge at the office. Visitors may not take

pictures, videos, or audio clips of students with a cell phone or camera. All visitors to our campus must adhere to all school rules and district policies to ensure the safety and privacy of our students. Classroom visitations are welcome, but advance arrangement with the teacher is required. Make sure cell phones are set to vibrate or off when working in classrooms. Children are not permitted in the staff workroom at any time. Any visitor causing a disruption to the normal proceedings of the school day, will be escorted off of the campus. Please remember to sign out in the office.

ASES- AFTER SCHOOL EDUCATION AND SAFETY

Students in grade Kindergarten through 8th grade are able to attend the LMA ASES program through the Boys and Girls Club. The program begins right after school dismissal and continues until 6pm, Monday through Friday. Teachers release their students, who walk directly to the Club, located on our campus in the gymnasium. This is a free opportunity for your child to continue to have structured social interactions, enriching activities, and work on their school work. Children also receive a light snack as part of the program. Visit our [website](#) for more information. If you are interested in having your student attend the program, please contact Site Director, Stanley Fa'asua at (760)-497-0788.

EIGHTH GRADE PROMOTION

Students in 8th grade will participate in a promotion ceremony at the end of the school year. In order to encourage high standards of student achievement, conduct and behavior the principal may deny a student the privilege of participating in promotion activities leading up to and including the ceremony in accordance with minimum grade requirements. Any eighth grade student who received two or more failing grades (F's) in the first progress report of the 2nd semester will have his/her progress reviewed and shall be placed on an academic contract. The parents of these students will be asked to meet with their students' teachers at the end of the first semester. Any student who received two or more failing grades or marks of "U" in citizenship at the last progress report of the second semester may be excluded from all promotion exercises, activities, and ceremonies. Students suspended from school during the last quarter (9 weeks) may be excluded from promotion exercises and end of year activities.

FOOD AT SCHOOL

The San Marcos Unified School District recognizes the link between student health and learning, and has developed a [Wellness Policy](#) that promotes student health through nutrition education, nutrition guidelines, physical education and activity. In accordance with this policy, **we do not celebrate birthdays in classrooms with candy, cakes, cupcakes sodas, etc. Please do not bring any food to school without prior permission from the classroom teacher.** Food and drinks are allowed at other celebration events, however they must follow the SMUSD Food and Beverage Guidelines. **Always** check with the classroom teacher prior to bringing any type of food item into the classroom. Check out this poster for [birthday celebration alternatives](#).

Students may eat a healthy snack at the beginning of their morning recess, rather than what we refer to as "extra" foods, such as chips and cookies. Please do not send glass containers with your child. Please do not send any type of cutting utensil with your child. Our cafeteria can help if they need assistance.

PETS ON CAMPUS

Pets are not allowed on campus unless approved by administration. If approved to be in a classroom, the pet must be brought to school by a parent and taken home immediately after it is no longer needed for classroom use. Some students may have allergies or are anxious with animals, therefore **we DO NOT allow dogs, cats or other family pets on campus during arrival or dismissal even if the animal is small or leashed. Families will be asked to promptly remove their pets by Administration if they are brought on campus.**

HEALTH SERVICES

Please notify the school when you enroll your child if your child has a health condition or a physical condition that might pose a problem in any way or that might need special attention during the school day. Children needing to take medication at school must have a parent-signed "Authorization for Medication" form. This form is obtained from the Health Office and must be completed yearly. Health Services provides vision and hearing screening for all students in

Kindergarten, 2nd and 5th grades. Screenings may also be provided upon request, as time permits. You will be notified if it is found that your child is in need of outside medical attention.

BULLYING

“Bullying” means severe or pervasive physical or verbal conduct (student-to-student), including communications in writing or by electronic act (texting, Internet, etc.), and including sexual harassment, hate violence, or harassment, threats or intimidation, that has, or can be reasonably predicted to have, substantial detrimental effects on a person, their mental or physical health, and/or their academic performance.

The staff and teachers at La Mirada Academy take all incidents involving bullying on our campus seriously. Bullying is the intentional and repeated acts of a threatening or demeaning nature that occur through direct verbal (e.g., threatening, name calling), direct physical (e.g., hitting, kicking), and indirect (e.g. spreading rumors, influencing relationships, cyber bullying) means that typically occur in situations in which there is a power or status difference.

Simply stated, the characteristics of bullying are:

- Is the conduct experienced severe or pervasive physical/verbal acts?
- Is the student fearful?
- Is it affecting the student’s attendance?
- Is it affecting the student’s physical or mental health?

Parents and students are encouraged to report all alleged incidents to school administrators when they occur. As part of the Safe Place to Learn Act, our school is committed to reducing acts of discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation and bullying. More information and bullying forms can be found [here](#).

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the San Marcos Unified School District, in keeping with efforts to establish and maintain an environment in which the dignity and worth of all members of our district are respected, that sexual harassment of students and employees is unacceptable conduct and will not be tolerated.

SAFE AND DRUG FREE

Our goal is to provide a safe and drug free environment for all our students. We actively enforce our school district’s “Zero Tolerance” policy. Students who attempt to bring drugs, alcohol, or weapons to school may be arrested by the sheriff, suspended from school, and may even be expelled for up to one full year.

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL

La Mirada Academy recognizes the health hazards related to the use of tobacco, including the breathing of second-level smoke. We are a “tobacco-free” school, which means we do not allow smoking or vaping in the classrooms or on the campus at any time. In addition, we provide educational information to our students through classroom instruction and activities. Our school has information available about programs that support adults who desire to stop smoking and/or vaping.

REPORT CARDS K-5

Report cards are sent home to parents at the end of each semester. Report cards are based on a 1-4 scale and the district expectation is for students to reach proficiency (score of 3) by the end of the school year. Report cards are uploaded and can be read in Parent Vue.

REPORT CARDS 6-8

6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will have two progress reports and one report card each semester. Progress reports and report cards are uploaded and can be read in Parent Vue.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Title I School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy
La Mirada Academy
2023-24

2.0 With approval from the local governing board, [La Mirada Academy](#) has jointly developed with, and distributed to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents, and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school. (EC Section 11503; 20 United States Code [U.S.C.] Section [§] 6318[b][1-4]) [Parents and staff take the following actions to involve parents and staff in the joint development and joint agreement of our Parental Engagement Policy.](#) The Policy is reviewed each school year by the [La Mirada Academy Leadership Team](#) and parental groups. These groups include, [ELAC](#), [School Site Council](#), and [Parent Teacher Organization](#). The policy is updated annually to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

2.1 Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

The school-level parent and family engagement policy shall describe the means for how [La Mirada Academy](#) school shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[b][1]) The school convenes an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited to attend and encouraged to attend, to inform parents and family members of their school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements, and the right of the parents to be involved. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][1]) [La Mirada Academy has a Title 1 Parent Meeting each year. This meeting is held within the first semester of school. Invitations, in both English and Spanish, are sent home inviting parents to this meeting. A translator is provided at this meeting to assist parents at the Title 1 meeting. At this meeting, School Achievement Data is reviewed, Intervention services are discussed, the Budget for Title 1 funds is reviewed and Parent Engagement strategies are shared. During this meeting parents are encouraged to ask questions and provide suggestions for improvement.](#)

The school offers a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning, evening, and may provide, with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][2])

[Many flexible meeting dates and opportunities are made available for parents to receive information at La Mirada Academy. These include: Kindergarten Orientation, Welcome Back Orientation, Meet the Teacher Event, School Site Council Meetings, ELAC Meetings, PTO Meetings, Title 1 Parent Meeting, Family Math and Science Nights, Principal Coffee Chats, Open House, and Parent Teacher Conferences.](#)

The school involves parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][3]) [La Mirada Academy holds the following meetings regularly throughout the school year: School Site Council Meetings, ELAC Meetings, PTO Meetings, and Title 1 Parent Meeting.](#)

The school provides parents of participating children with the following:

Timely information about the Title I program. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][A])

[La Mirada Academy has a Title 1 Parent Meeting each year. This meeting is held within the first semester of school. Invitations, in both English and Spanish, are sent home inviting parents to this meeting. A translator is provided at this meeting to assist parents at the Title 1 meeting.](#)

A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][B]) [With the assistance of San Marcos Unified, La Mirada Academy also provides assistance to parents in understanding: the State's academic standards, the State's student achievement data, the District's academic assessments, the District's Parent Involvement Policies, and Title 1 requirements. This information is disseminated to parents at Back to School Night, parent conferences and informational parent meetings. The](#)

district also provides the School Accountability Report Card both in English and Spanish. The report also provides parents with valuable information. It can be found on the school and district website or in the school office

If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][4][C]) [La Mirada Academy regularly provides the following opportunities: ELAC Meetings, PTO Meetings, Title 1 Parent Meeting, and Principal Coffee Chats](#)

If the schoolwide program (SWP) plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, the school submits any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency (LEA). (20 U.S.C. § 6318[c][5]) [Parent input is solicited at all School Site Council and English Learner Advisory Committee meetings. Site administrators also consider comments sent through email and other means of communication.](#)

2.2 Building Capacity for Involvement

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted under Title I, Part A shall carry out the following requirements: (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e])

The school provides assistance to parents of children served by the school or LEA, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the challenging state academic standards, state and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I, Part A, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][1]) [La Mirada Academy provides assistance to parents through our Community Liaison, Social Worker, Psychologist, as well as providing information at Back to School Night, parent conferences, Open House, Family Nights, School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Committee and Parent Square.](#)

The school provides materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][2]) [La Mirada Academy provides materials and training during parent conferences, Family Math and Science Nights, English Learner Advisory Committee Meetings, and the Weekly emails. District sponsored materials and training are communicated in the Weekly email.](#)

The school educates teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][3]) [La Mirada Academy teachers, staff, and administrators receive on-going training regarding the engagement of parents and family through district Professional Learning Communities, the Student Services Department, and the Curriculum and Instruction Department.](#)

The school, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinates and integrates parent involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][4]) [La Mirada Academy provides monthly and bi-monthly parent meetings \(School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Committee\) that are open to the public, Family Nights, and other school-sponsored activities made possible through our Parent Teacher Organization. All of which is communicated through Teachers and the School Newsletter.](#)

The school ensures that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][5]) [School communication is through School Messenger telephone and email, as well as through Social Media Accounts. Fliers also go home as necessary, as through through PeachJar.](#)

The school provides such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[e][14])

Parent input is always elicited in monthly scheduled meetings, verbally, and through e-mail.

2.3 Accessibility

In carrying out the parent and family engagement requirements of Title I, Part A, [La Mirada Academy](#), to the extent practicable, shall provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 6311), as amended by ESSA, in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand. (20 U.S.C. § 6318[f]) [La Mirada Academy provides communication through Parent Square via telephone and email, and through paper printed flyers, as well as Class Dojo when parents opt-in.](#)

SARC

Since November 1988, state law has required that schools receiving state funding to prepare and distribute a SARC. A similar requirement is also contained in the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The purpose of the report card is to provide parents and the community with important information about each school. A SARC can be an effective way for a school to report on its progress in achieving goals. The public may also use a SARC to evaluate and compare schools on a variety of indicators. Parents with Internet access can go to the [CDE Find a SARC web page](#). This web page contains the current and one prior year of SARC Reports that have been submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE) by the schools/local educational agencies (LEAs). For purposes of the SARC, an LEA is a school district or a county office of education or a direct funded charter school or a nonpublic nonsectarian school. The SARC is also available on the school website. Hardcopies are available in the school office.

LMA PROGRAMS

*Additional information about all the programs listed below can be found on our website under the [Programs](#) tab.

G.A.T.E.

La Mirada's GATE program is designed to assist in meeting the unique needs of students who are identified with gifted and talented skills. The program begins in fourth grade with a multiple criteria identification process. Students are referred by teachers and parents during their 3rd grade year for GATE testing qualification. Parents are involved throughout the referral process. Please visit the district's website for more [GATE information](#).

Athletics

SMUSD and LMA are excited to be providing a limited number of sports throughout the year. Take a moment to navigate our Athletics webpage or updated information. Announcements and information will be available on our school website, and phone messages sent home.

Wolves T.V.

Wolves Television is an enrichment class dedicated to creating newscasts that are shared across La Mirada Academy in a broadcast format. Students can watch the productions in their classrooms periodically throughout the year. The broadcasts are also available on our website.

GSA Club

GSA clubs, or GSAs for short, are student-run organizations that unite LGBTQIA and allied youth to build community and organize around issues impacting them in their schools and communities. GSAs have evolved beyond their traditional role to serve as safe spaces for LGBTQIA youth in middle schools and high schools, and have emerged as vehicles for deep social change related to racial, gender, and educational justice. ([GSA Network](#)). If you are interested in joining our GSA Club please email the teacher advisor.

ASB (Associated Student Body)

ASB provides an opportunity for students to practice democratic leadership in practical school situations. Students share with adults the responsibility of planning and organizing assemblies, meetings, social and recreational gatherings, rallies, elections, and other school events.