

GETTING TO KNOW ***SAINT VINCENT FERRER HIGH SCHOOL***

A Parent's Guide

Who, What, When, Where, Why?

First of all, ***Saint Vincent Ferrer High School*** is sponsored by the parish of Saint Vincent Ferrer, located at 65th Street and Lexington Avenues. The first school was built in 1884 and the Dominican Sisters of Saint Mary of the Springs have taught and administered the school since that time. The school was started to meet the educational needs of the immigrant population which was flooding into New York City. The Dominican Fathers and Sisters gladly accepted the challenge to prepare these young people to become educated in order to earn a living for themselves and for their families, and to know the Catholic faith. Originally the school included both a grade school and a high school. As a result of the increasing popularity of the high school and its growing need for instructional space, the

grade school was phased out in 1985.

Since that time the school has seen ongoing growth and many improvements.

The entire science department was renovated in 2004 with a multimillion dollar project resulting in three state of the art science labs. At the same time a space for studio art was completed.

Who's In Charge?

Most educational studies credit many factors in the success of a school: a dedicated faculty, involved parents, motivated students, financial security, and innovative teaching. However, one thing which almost all educators agree upon is that the leadership of a school is essential to its success. These are the people who are with your daughter every day, day in and day out, who are responsible for making the school a success and a place where students want to come to every day.

Saint Vincent Ferrer is exceptionally fortunate to have a Principal and three Assistant Principals who possess the experience, success, credentials and accomplishments necessary to give you peace of mind. Ferrer's Administrators are committed, experienced professional Catholic secondary school educators. Together they possess six graduate degrees, including a Ph.D., and more than 100 years experience and success in Catholic high school education.

Who Would Teach My Daughter?

The students at Ferrer are fortunate to have a highly credentialed, professional faculty who are a combination of those new to the profession and those with years of experience behind them. This is a winning combination in any school. Our teachers possess academic degrees from all over the world: India, Ireland, Egypt, France,

Ivory Coast, Spain, and New York City and they represent a cross section of cultures and experiences. One thing they have in common is their commitment to being the best role models and the best teachers that they can be to our students.

The Ferrer faculty has 2 teachers with Ph.D. degrees; 29 hold Master's degrees; we have one with a Juris Doctor degree; one candidate for the Ed.D. degree and four who are currently candidates for Master's degrees.

At *Ferrer*, you know that your teachers are competent, caring, and qualified.

What Kind of Activities Does Ferrer Offer?

New York City has rightly been described as the *Capital of the World*. At Saint Vincent Ferrer High School, we incorporate our prime location as an integral part of our school curriculum. The Global Concerns Club meets regularly to find ways to address some of the pressing social issues of the day. In the spring of 2006, they were honored by the United Nations

for their efforts on the Millennium Development Goals. The Global Concerns Club is very active and involved in, well, global concerns. They launched a major movement last spring to let their classmates know about the world wide movement to eradicate extreme poverty by 2015 and set about finding how to achieve the goal. They wanted to reach as many students as possible, so the club organized series of activities including a website, news broadcast, slideshow, and bulletin board. They even posted facts about each Goal on the cafeteria lunch trays. Their commitment resulted in their being recognized by the United Nations. You can see for yourself at <http://www.concernusa.org/globalproject>

So, What Do the Girls Do for Fun?

School is never all work and no play! We have a number of events during the year which include many facets of the *Ferrer Family*. **The Mother-Daughter Luncheon** in the early spring is always lots of fun. A DJ sets up and

everyone cuts to the dance floor. The afternoon includes a fashion show, too.

There are at least two Student Tours Abroad offered each year.

Hundreds of students (and their family members) have taken advantage of this wonderful opportunity to see the world and grow up in the process!

Our Theatre Club offers two opportunities each year for students to hone their dramatic flair. The Theatre Club is so good that they won a prize from the American Globe Competition for the excellence of a play which they wrote and performed themselves.



