

## Press release

### French-Armenian daily school project in Valence: the community gives its green light



Members of the Armenian Apostolic Church parish of Valence, France, agreed to carry out the French-Armenian daily school project. This approval is the starting point for a major project in Valence.

The school will be located in the complex adjacent to the church, at rue de la Cécile. The premises at the heart of the city have great potential. The land has enough space to build a parking lot (drop off parking) and a spacious playground. Significant renovations and extension works are anticipated in order to respect the standards and norms of the *Education Nationale* (French Education Ministry).

Four pedagogical axes will guide the project: the transmission of Armenian language and culture, excellence in teaching, French-Armenian-English multilingualism, and an exemplary identity balance between French and Armenian cultures.

This program gives a prevailing space to the child development and can only succeed if the student can learn in the best possible conditions.

As such, consultations were held with architects and building professionals. The cost of operations is estimated at more than € 1.5 million.

A call for donations will start on October 2017. The participation of all Armenians, in France and abroad, is essential in order to start the construction work. This fundraising is necessary to carry out this project, and our generous benefactor, Kevork Arabian, has decided to give it a huge boost with 600,000 euros.

We also welcome the enthusiasm of our first contributors, thanks to whom 8,600 euros were raised in one single day, before the official launch of the campaign. We thank them warmly:

- Alexandre and Marie Siranossian (5 000 euros)
- Dirahayr and Diramayr Maldjian (1 000 euros)
- Renée and Rosette Tinguerian (1 000 euros)
- Hermine Kechichian (500 euros)
- Patricia Aprahamian (500 euros)
- Eugénie Filibosoglu (500 euros)
- Anaïs Kirazian (100 euros)

A blessing ceremony of the land, officiated by His Grace Bishop Vahan Hovhanessian, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church in France, will take place on Sunday 26 November 2017, on the grounds of the future school.

*Project initiated by the AGEFAV (Management Association of the French-Armenian School of Valence), under the authority of the Armenian Cultural Center of Valence (CCAV), supported by His Grace Bishop Vahan Hovhanessian, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church in France, and in partnership with the APCAF (Association for the Promotion of the Armenian Culture in France), chaired by His Grace Bishop Norvan Zakarian.*

Please send your donations to :

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Facebook : Ecole Franco-Arménienne de Valence

CCAV – Centre culturel Arménien de Valence

AGEFAV – Association de Gestion de l'École Franco-Arménienne de Valence

Valence, France, September 25, 2017