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*"Where students are educated, empowered,
and equipped to reach their highest potential."*

OUR STORY

Windsor Charter Academy's elementary school, middle school, and early college high school fulfill the needs of families in the north central Colorado region by providing rigorous academic standards and an early college option that prepares students for post-secondary success. Students engage in college-preparatory and college-level coursework that supports their need to reach their highest potential.

WCA opened its doors in 2001 and has continued to thrive in this growing community of Windsor, Colorado. Initially, the school building on 680 Academy Court was a school for students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade. Today, WCA hosts three schools—an elementary school, a middle school and an early college high school. The middle and early college high school building is located a few blocks away at 810 Automation Drive.

Many families look for academic opportunities that will challenge students from kindergarten throughout their school experience until high school graduation. By providing opportunities for students to graduate with a dual degree, a high school degree and an associate degree, students are prepared for next steps in their academic journey. Students are quickly able to resume collegiate studies at a university, completing their bachelor's degree in two more years.

Elementary School

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680 Academy Court
Windsor, Colorado 80550
P: 970.674.5020
F: 877.594.4749
W: windsorcharteracademy.org

CEEB Code: 060004

ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director: Dr. Rebecca Teeples
Rebecca.Teeples@windsorcharteracademy.org

Elementary Education Director: Jessica Wilson
Jessica.Wilson@windsorcharteracademy.org

Elementary Assistant Principal: Terra Moore
Terra.Moore@windsorcharteracademy.org

Elementary Dean of Students: Chrissy Jones
Chrissy.Jones@windsorcharteracademy.org

CONTACTS

Registrar/Student Data Manager: Tammy Fagler
Tammy.Fagler@windsorcharteracademy.org

Counselors: Jennifer Herrback and Samantha Winder
Jennifer.Herrback@windsorcharteracademy.org
Samantha.Winder@windsorcharteracademy.org

OUR GUIDING WORK

All of the staff at Windsor Charter Academy embrace our vision “where students are educated, empowered, and equipped to reach their highest potential.” Windsor Charter Academy provides our students with a solid academic foundation through our K-8 Core Knowledge and our rigorous 9-12 early college high school curricula. Our school culture empowers students to achieve academic excellence through critical thinking, character development, and a love for lifelong learning.



JOHN IRWIN SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Windsor Charter Academy is a multi-year recipient of the prestigious John Irwin School of Excellence Award. John Irwin School of Excellence Awards are given to schools that demonstrate exceptional academic achievement over time. Recipients of the John Irwin School of Excellence Award receive an "Exceeds Expectations" rating on the academic achievement indicator of the School Performance Frameworks reflecting exceptional performance in math, English language arts, and science.

WINDSOR CHARTER ACADEMY'S ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Students shall be considered for admission without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, ancestry, or disability.

WAIT LIST

The wait list is determined by the date and time that a completed Letter of Intent is submitted to the Windsor Charter Academy registrar.

DISTRICT RESIDENCY

Proof of residency for in-district or out-of-district status will be provided to Windsor Charter Academy at the time of submission of Letter of Intent. If a parent/ guardian has a change of residency from out-of-district to in-district prior to admission to Windsor Charter Academy, their Letter of Intent date will be changed to reflect the day in-district documentation is provided and they will be added to the in-district wait lists appropriately.

AGE REQUIREMENT

An applicant must be five (5) years of age on or by August 15th for admission to kindergarten. Letters of Intent will not be accepted for unborn children.

LETTER OF INTENT

Parents/ guardians of the applicant are responsible for updating the Letter of Intent, i.e. notifying the registrar of change of address, phone number, etc. If Windsor Charter Academy cannot contact an applicant's family due to change of contact information, the school is not responsible to search for the applicant's parent/ guardian. The applicant will be removed from the wait list.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS CONTINUED

LOTTERY PROCEDURES

1. The lottery has five tiers for each grade.
 - **TIER ONE** for each grade includes students of staff members and Executive Board members.
 - **TIER TWO** for each grade includes students residing in the Weld RE-4 School District with a sibling attending Windsor Charter Academy.
 - **TIER THREE** for each grade includes students residing outside the Weld RE-4 School District with a sibling attending Windsor Charter Academy.
 - **TIER FOUR** for each grade includes students residing in the Weld RE-4 School District without a sibling attending Windsor Charter Academy.
 - **TIER FIVE** for each grade level includes students residing out of the Weld Re-4 School District without a sibling attending Windsor Charter Academy.
2. Children of current staff will be placed in a grade level for enrollment.
3. Siblings of current students will be placed in a grade level for enrollment.
4. From the remaining spots available at each grade level, 50% of the openings will be filled on a first-come first-served basis based on the Letter of Intent date of submission, beginning with Tier One and moving through Tier Five to fill the 50% of spots. Grade-level openings will be filled beginning with 12th grade and moving down. As families accept positions in upper grades for their students, siblings of that family move to Tier One or Tier Two depending on residence.
5. Once children of current staff, siblings of current students, and 50% of openings have been filled from the Letter of Intent on a first-come, first-served premise from the Letter of Intent date of submission, the lottery process will begin on the third (3rd) Tuesday in January of each year to fill the remaining open spots, beginning with Tier One and moving through Tier Five.

After open spots are filled, the wait list in grades that have no more remaining openings will be established. Siblings of students enrolled in other grade levels will be placed at the front of each grade level wait list in the order in which their enrolled siblings were drawn or enrolled. In the event that multiple siblings apply in the same grade level, the order will be decided by a lottery drawing involving only the siblings in that situation. All names of the remaining applicants will be drawn at random. Each will be placed on the wait list in that order until every name is drawn.

48-HOUR DECISION

If enrollment is offered to an applicant, the school requires a decision within 48 hours. If enrollment is not accepted or confirmed within 48 hours, the applicant will be removed from the wait list. If an applicant wishes to reapply, a new Letter of Intent must be completed and the applicant will be placed on the wait list based on the date and time recorded on this new form.

MID-YEAR DECISION

If enrollment is offered during the school year, the applicant will be allowed to either accept or decline the available position. If the position is declined related to mid-year concerns, the applicant will retain their position on the wait list and the next available applicant will be offered the mid-year position until the position is filled or the wait list has been exhausted for the available position.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

As a charter school, Windsor Charter Academy believes that parent involvement is critical for our students' academic success. Windsor Charter Academy Schools require that all parents fulfill a 35-hour per school year volunteer commitment. These hours can be met many different ways including making copies, helping in the classroom and volunteering for one of our many committees. The following are the committees that offer opportunities for parents to volunteer:

BOARD COMMITTEES:

- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- School Accountability Committee
- Student & School Safety Committee

SCHOOL COMMITTEES:

- Booster Club
- Parent-Teacher Committee (PTC)



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

While academics are essential at Windsor Charter Academy, citizenship is an equal component as well. Students use the Eight Keys of Excellence by Quantum Learning. All of our students are held accountable for both their behavior and their academic growth. The Eight Keys of Excellence support the overarching theme of respect.

> INTEGRITY:

My actions and values are aligned. I do the right thing even when no one is watching.

> FAILURE LEADS TO SUCCESS:

I learn from my mistakes. I have a growth mindset.

> SPEAK WITH GOOD PURPOSE:

I speak honestly and kindly. I think before I speak.

> THIS IS IT!:

I make the most of every moment. I keep a positive attitude.

> COMMITMENT:

I do what it takes to be successful. I make my dreams happen.

> OWNERSHIP:

I take responsibility for my thoughts, words and actions. I live above the line.

> FLEXIBILITY:

I am willing to do things differently. I am open to new ideas.

> BALANCE:

I live my best life. I make time for things that matter to me.

CORE KNOWLEDGE

Is it really important that kids know things? Shouldn't they just learn to think? It's natural to assume that teaching lots of "stuff" isn't important anymore when students can simply Google anything they need to know. But you probably take for granted how much "walking-around knowledge" you carry inside your head—and how much it helps you. If you have a rich base of background knowledge, it's easier to learn more. And it's much harder to read with comprehension, solve problems and think critically if you don't.

The idea that we have to choose between knowledge and thinking skills is a false choice. Kids need both. "The richer the knowledge base, the more smoothly and effectively cognitive processes — the very ones that teachers target — operate," notes University of Virginia cognitive scientist Daniel T. Willingham. "So, the more knowledge students accumulate, the smarter they become."

An education grounded in shared knowledge of history, science, art and music is also the great equalizer. The Core Knowledge Foundation believes that for the sake of academic excellence, greater equity, and higher literacy, elementary and middle schools need to teach a coherent, cumulative, and content-specific core curriculum.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

All of the most successful educational systems in the world teach a common body of knowledge in the early grades. They do this because as both research and common sense demonstrate, we learn new knowledge by building on what we already know. It is important to begin building foundations of knowledge in the early grades because that is when children are most receptive, and because academic deficiencies in the first six grades can permanently impair the quality of later schooling.

HIGHER LITERACY

Children create understanding by building on what they already know. They learn best when they are offered an engaging, challenging, and content-rich curriculum that builds and grows from year to year. As the heart of a school's curriculum, the sequence provides a solid foundation for literacy and learning that promotes academic excellence for all learners, while remaining flexible enough to meet state and local standards. The sequence is not a list of facts, events, and dates to be memorized. It is a guide for content from grade to grade, designed to encourage steady academic growth and progress as children construct their knowledge and develop literacy and critical thinking skills year after year.

STRONG FOUNDATIONS OF KNOWLEDGE, GRADE BY GRADE

The result of a lengthy process of research and consensus building by the Core Knowledge Foundation, the sequence is distinguished by its breadth and specificity. The specific content in the sequence provides a solid foundation on which to build skills instruction. Moreover, because the sequence builds knowledge systematically year by year, it helps prevent repetition and gaps in instruction that can result from vague curricular guidelines.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) supports our vision and mission by ensuring all students are equipped to reach their highest potential. By teaching and reinforcing academic behaviors and higher-level thinking at a young age, AVID elementary teachers create a ripple effect in later grades. Elementary students develop the academic habits they will need to be successful in middle school, high school, and college, in an age-appropriate and challenging way. Children learn about organization, study skills, communication, and self-advocacy. AVID elementary students take structured notes and answer and ask high-level questions that go beyond routine answers.

The strong college-going culture on an AVID elementary campus encourages students to think about their college and career plans. Schools cover their walls with college pennants and banners, and educators speak about their college experiences. College and careers are no longer foreign concepts, and teachers provide the academic foundation students need to be on a path for college and career success. AVID elementary programs close the opportunity gap before it begins.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPECIALS

Elementary specials benefit the whole child by providing rich opportunities to engage in Core Knowledge curriculum centered around art, music and literature. Students also have opportunities to develop healthy bodies and minds during physical education. During Innovation Lab, students engage in STEM-based activities to foster a love of math, science and inspire innovative thinking. Cultural Literacy inspires global citizenship and helps foster a love of language.

ART

CULTURAL LITERACY

INNOVATION LAB

MUSIC

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

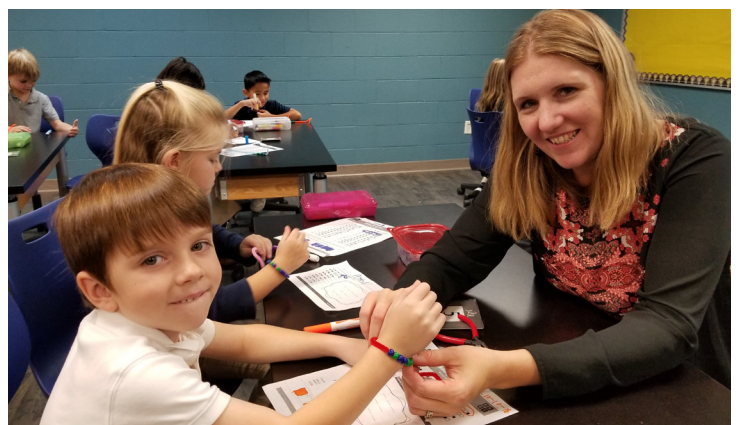
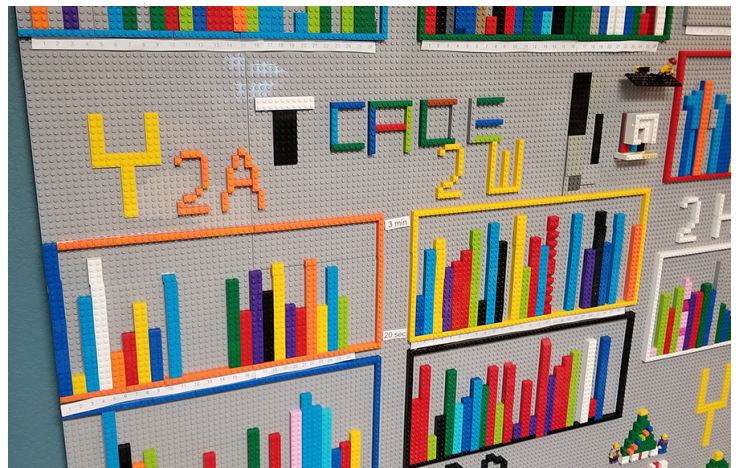


CULTURAL LITERACY

Cultural Literacy enhances and builds upon our Core Knowledge curriculum by creating meaningful literacy-based lessons that build a love for reading. An emphasis is placed on exploring cultural influences throughout the Core Knowledge literature and history curriculum. Students are also exposed to foreign language using hands-on learning stations in all grade levels and online guided lessons in 3rd through 5th grade.

INNOVATION LAB

Innovation Lab provides students with the opportunity to experience real world application of engineering, science, mathematics and technology. Through the use of hands-on and creative activities, augmented and virtual reality stations, coding programs, 3D printers, a floor to ceiling Lego wall and various robotics and engineering tools, students have the opportunity to explore and create projects that demonstrate the application of 21st century learning skills. Students are engaged through collaborative activities, utilizing creative thinking skills, and communicating with others to solve problems and overcome challenges regularly during this cutting edge specials class in grades K-5.



TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOCUS

Windsor Charter Academy places a focus on cultivating an innovative learning environment for all students. We believe that students learn best when they are curious. We believe that creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication skills should be modeled in every classroom and encouraged in every student. We believe that educational environments that value innovation, incorporate 21st century skills and encourage meaningful incorporation of technology creates critical thinkers, increases science, engineering and mathematics literacy, and empowers the next generation of entrepreneurs and philanthropists. Windsor Charter Academy proudly maintains a 1:1 student/technology ratio in our 1st through 5th grade classrooms and all kindergarten students have access to classroom devices. Our staff is committed to integrating technology in a meaningful way in every classroom.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Windsor Charter Academy believes that students must have opportunities to be well rounded to reach their highest potential. To support our vision, we offer extracurricular opportunities. The following are a few examples:

ART CLUB

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

CHESS CLUB

CHEER CLUB

CHOIR

COOKING CLUB

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

- Basketball, Soccer, Track, and Volleyball

LEGO ROBOTICS

SCIENCE MATTERS

STUDENT COUNCIL



CORE KNOWLEDGE CELEBRATIONS

History, science and the arts are brought to life as students participate in Core Knowledge celebrations at the end of units. Students come dressed in character based on the content they are learning and are able to expand their knowledge through fun and engaging hands-on experiences.



STUDENT AND SCHOOL SAFETY

Student and school safety is a top priority at Windsor Charter Academy. Three full-time armed security officers patrol our buildings each day. In order to ensure the safety and welfare of all students, we have strict protocols for volunteers and visitors to our school. The building is locked during school hours and all visitors must enter through our main office. Every visitor is required to pass a Colorado Bureau of Investigation background check and provide photo identification on each visit. Furthermore, all staff and students are trained on ALICE safety protocols. Ongoing professional development and safety drills are conducted throughout the year.





NOTES



VISION STATEMENT

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MISSION STATEMENT

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