



*"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.

Windsor Charter Academy 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, Windsor Charter Academy hosts three schools—an elementary school, a middle school and an early college high school. The middle and early college high school 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. By providing opportunities for students to graduate with a dual degree, which includes 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.

## Middle School

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CEEB Code: 060004

## ADMINISTRATION

**Executive Director: Dr. Rebecca Teeples**  
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**Middle School Education Director: Kelly Seilbach**  
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## CONTACTS

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# 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.

“An important decision I made was continuing at WCA. I am getting a good education here and am excited to take college classes next year. I like how welcoming the school is and am proud that I made the A basketball team when I was in 6th grade.”

— Jackson, 8th grade



## 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.

### 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.

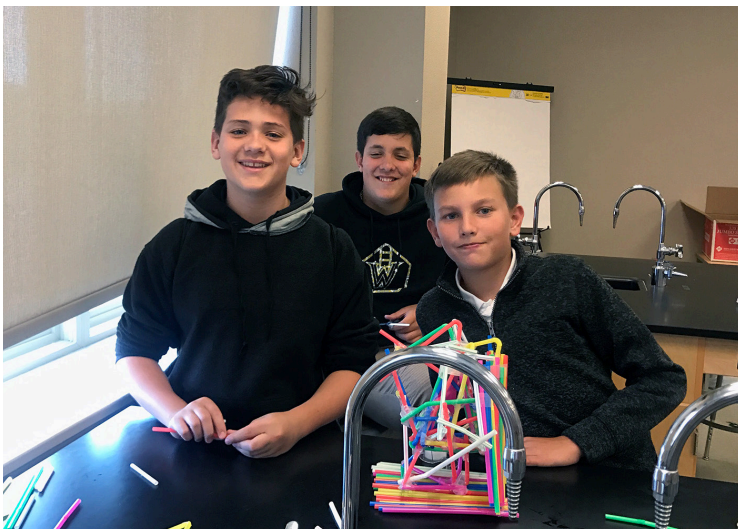
## LOTTERY PROCEDURES

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.



## 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. 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.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL CORE KNOWLEDGE CURRICULUM

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.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) supports our vision and mission by ensuring all students are equipped to reach their highest potential. Middle school students build upon the skills learned at our Elementary School. All students learn how to organize their materials in binders and planners as well as how to organize their thinking and learning. Additionally, all students learn specific note-taking skills and interact with those notes to deepen their content knowledge with leveled inquiry questions. Teachers specifically teach collaboration skills and writing strategies for different purposes as well as engage students in critical reading strategies to prepare them for college-level tasks.

Middle school students also have the option to enroll in our AVID Leadership Elective to dive deeper into the AVID strategies. This is an application-only course but is highly recommended for students new to Windsor Charter Academy.



## TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION FOCUS

Windsor Charter Academy prioritizes innovative learning environments for all students. We believe that students learn best when they are curious. We understand that creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication skills should be modeled in every classroom and cultivated in every student. Through elective courses that encourage and support learning, we feel that students are given the opportunity to explore, and engage in innovative learning. We encourage 21st century learning skills in all of our classrooms through engaging curriculums. We encourage our students to think outside the box and demonstrate real-world problem solving skills. Students apply learning through community partnerships, authentic field trip experiences and engaging enrichment program offerings.

## S.T.E.M. FOCUS

Windsor Charter Academy utilizes a S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering and math) approach to encourage critical 21st century skills, such as problem solving, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication. S.T.E.M. education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators. Windsor Charter Academy proudly maintains a 1:1 student/technology ratio. Our staff is committed to integrating technology in a meaningful way in every classroom. Our elective course offerings strive to provide students with cutting-edge options that highlight concepts of S.T.E.M. and build upon important math and science skills. We encourage exploration of career opportunities in growing industries such as computer science, engineering and medicine. With over 9 million U.S. jobs coming from careers in S.T.E.M., we believe that encouraging a passion for real-world application creates lifelong opportunities for our students.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTI-YEAR PLAN

GRADE	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH		SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	PE/ SPANISH	ART/ MUSIC	ELECTIVES
6 <sup>th</sup>	ENG 6*	MAT 6*		HIS 6	SCI 6	PE 6	ART 6	See course descriptions for elective options 1 and 2
						SPA 6	MUS 6	
7 <sup>th</sup>	ENG 7*	MAT 07*	PRE-ALGEBRA*	HIS 7	SCI 7	PE 7	ART 7	
						SPA 7	MUS 7	
8 <sup>th</sup>	ENG 8*	MAT 30*	MAT 08	HIS 8	SCI 8	PE 8	ART 8	
						SPA 8	MUS 8	



## MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES

CYBERSECURITY

CUP STACKING

LITERACY LAB (6, 7, 8)

DEBATE

BOOK CLUB

MATH GAMES

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

GRAPHIC NOVELS

COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES I

SCIENCE IN MOVIES & MEDIA

SUCCESS PRINCIPLES FOR TEENS

CIRCUITS I

BEGINNING LEGO ROBOTICS

YEARBOOK

HOUSEHOLD ENGINEERING

CONCERT BAND

CHOIR

SYMPHONIC BAND

SPANISH

3D ART

ADVANCED STUDIO ART

INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

FILM STUDIES

INTRODUCTION TO DRAWING

COMICS AND ZINES

ORIGAMI

COMPETITIVE SPORTS & GAMES

DRUMFIT

CALLIGRAPHY

STUDY SKILLS

ELEMENTARY TEACHER'S AIDE

AVID LEADERSHIP (6, 7, 8)

ADVANCED STUDIO ART

FOOD AROUND THE WORLD

EVERYDAY MATH (6, 7, 8)





## 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 extrahcurricular opportunities. The following are a few examples:

### MATH COUNTS TEAM

Sponsored by Society of Professional Engineers, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the Department of Defense, among others, MathCounts provides engaging math programs to U.S. middle school students of all ability levels in order to build confidence and improve attitudes towards math and problem solving!

### NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

The National Junior Honor Society was founded in 1929 to encourage scholarship among middle school students and foster character, service, citizenship, and leadership. Our chapter, along with the more than 6,000 chapters in schools across the nation, strives to give practical meaning to the Society's high character standards. The National Junior Honor Society strives to recognize the total student—one who excels in all of these areas. Select students are considered for membership during the second semester of each school year.

### LEGO ROBOTICS

LEGO Robotics is a hands-on, collaborative, learning experience. Students design, build, and program small-scale robots while learning engineering and computer programming skills.

### ART CLUB

Students who join Art Club have an opportunity to work with a variety of materials in a setting that offers one-on-one assistance. Students focus on different materials depending on the interest of the club members, but options include: clay, screen printing, paper mache, photography, painting, mixed media, charcoal, and much more!



## ATHLETICS

Windsor Charter Academy is a member of the Northern Colorado Independent League. Our school competes against surrounding charter schools in our region, including: Dayspring Christian Academy, Heritage Christian Academy, Immanuel Lutheran School, Knowledge Quest Academy, Loveland Classical School, Ridgeview Classical School, New Vision Charter School, St. Joseph Catholic School, St. John Catholic School, St. Mary Catholic School, Union Colony Preparatory School, and West Ridge Academy. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to play sports.

### FALL

Coed Cross Country  
Boys' Soccer  
Coed Cheer (All Year)  
Girls' Volleyball

### WINTER

Boys' & Girls' Basketball  
Boys' & Girls' Wrestling (Tentative)

### SPRING

Coed Golf  
Girls' Soccer  
Coed Track & Field



## PERFORMING ARTS

Windsor Charter Academy's rigorous performing arts programs offer students a variety of opportunities to explore and showcase their performance skills. Middle school students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of performing arts classes and extracurricular activities such as band, choir, orchestra, and theater.

### THEATER PROGRAM & DRAMA EDUCATION

The middle school theater program is dedicated to providing students with a high-quality educational experience in the art of theater. Our middle school theater class puts on two theater productions each year.

### BAND

Concert band serves as a wonderful opportunity for students who are new musicians, learning a new instrument, or strengthening their skills as a musician. Symphonic band is dedicated to strengthening individual instrumental technique and large ensemble skills. Students participating in band should plan to supply their own instrument. The main instruments taught in band include: flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, French horn, oboe, bassoon, electric bass, percussion and xylophone.

### CHOIR

The choir program at Windsor Charter Academy fosters a love of music from diverse cultures, time periods, and genres while educating and equipping our students in the study and execution of the musical performing arts. We strive to prepare students for a lifetime of musical experiences and personal enrichment.





## VISION STATEMENT

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

## MISSION STATEMENT

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 culture empowers our students to achieve academic excellence through critical thinking, character development, and a love of lifelong learning.