

# Academic Program

## Curriculum

- ◇ A modern, **traditional liberal arts** approach
- ◇ Based on *Core Knowledge Scope & Sequence*
- ◇ Emphasis on **content** and **skills** to develop the whole student

## Instructional Approach

- ◇ **Pragmatic**, direct instructional techniques combined with a variety of teaching methodologies
- ◇ Planned, sequential, **comprehensive** and challenging academic content
- ◇ Strong emphasis on **skill development** in core areas of reading, English, and mathematics
- ◇ More classroom time devoted to **academics**
- ◇ Instructional **planning** to maximize student instructional time
- ◇ **Respectful**, managed educational environment
- ◇ Emphasis on **student practice** to reinforce learning, through classwork and homework
- ◇ **Homework** directly relating to classwork regularly assigned
- ◇ **Content and skills** integrated across subject areas when beneficial to increased understanding
- ◇ Students individually tested for **placement** in instructional groups for reading and math
- ◇ Frequent use of **formal assessments** in all subject areas

## Implementation

- ◇ Core Knowledge Scope & Sequence establishes content and skills to be taught
- ◇ Textbooks are used to deliver instruction, insuring comprehensive and uniform instruction
- ◇ Core Virtues Character Education

### Core Areas

- ◇ **Reading:** *Open Court* (K-5), Core Knowledge literature, *Accelerated Reader*
- ◇ **Language Arts:** *Modern Curriculum* (K), *Shirley English* (1-5), *Writing Alive* (K-5), *Warriner's* (6-8)
- ◇ **Math:** *Saxon Math* (ability grouped)  
Levels: Kindergarten through Algebra 2
- ◇ **Science:** Core Knowledge topics (Physical, Life, and Earth Sciences)
- ◇ **Social Studies:** Core Knowledge topics (American History, World Civilization, and Geography)
- ◇ **Spanish:** Full instruction grades 6-8, twice weekly grades 1-5

### Specials

- ◇ **Computer** application skills (basic keyboarding, MS Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point, grade level software related by subject, accessing CARL and the Internet)
- ◇ **Art** (basic concepts, integration with history)
- ◇ **Music** (basic theory, vocal, theater arts)
- ◇ **Physical Education** (basic physiology, development of motor skills, game and gamesmanship)

## Assessing Student Achievement

- ◇ Traditional tests and other assessments for ongoing evaluation of student learning
- ◇ ITBS administered in grades 1-8 annually
- ◇ State mandated tests - CSAP's (Colorado Student Assessment Program)

## Communication

- Good communication between home and school is essential for every student's success. Littleton Academy's communication model includes:
- ◇ Traditional letter grade **Report Cards** quarterly, with itemized **Interim Reports** to parents using the **Infinite Campus Parent Portal** computer access to student progress reports on a 3 week (6-8) or 5 week (K-5) schedule
  - ◇ ITBS and other standardized tests administered annually, with reports forwarded to parents
  - ◇ **Weekly Communication Folder**, with assignment notebook
  - ◇ School **newsletters**
  - ◇ Classroom newsletters or other teacher-initiated **classroom communications**
  - ◇ Semi-annual Parent Conferences
  - ◇ Additional contact with parents as needed

## Faculty

- ◇ Selected for their knowledge, instructional talent, management ability, and caring for students
- ◇ Qualified Instructional Associates work with classroom teachers to teach reading and math, creating multiple small groups for instruction tailored to students' needs
- ◇ All employees work under "at will" contracts. They are dedicated to promoting student achievement and making Littleton Academy one of the finest schools in Colorado
- ◇ All teachers are compliant with the federally mandated NCLB (No Child Left Behind act)

## Philosophy

At Littleton Academy, the focus is on learning and student achievement. We have high academic expectations for all our students. We are committed to providing an educational approach designed to promote success, now and in the future. A solid understanding of all basic subjects forms the foundation of knowledge, with mastery of content and skills in all academic areas essential. We believe it is from such mastery and understanding that self-esteem is created.

## The Charter School Concept

In 1993, Colorado passed the Charter School Act. With this legislation, and upon district approval of an extensive application describing all aspects of the anticipated program and school operations, a new public school can be established.

As a "charter school," we have the opportunity to operate differently, but we are responsible for all aspects of school operation, and we must demonstrate that our students meet or exceed district educational standards. Our annual budget is derived from negotiations with our district and is funded based on the per Pupil Operating Revenue (PPR) established by the state. All expenses, from construction to salaries to books and supplies are managed from this budget. In addition, most charters apply for waivers from district policies regarding curriculum, personnel and district calendars to increase flexibility when addressing educational and operational needs. Thus the purpose of a charter school is fulfilled -- the community is provided an additional educational choice, and innovative approaches to education are put to the test.

## Program Description

- ◇ A Charter School within Littleton Public School District
- ◇ 450 Students, Grades K-8
- ◇ Academic Kindergarten
- ◇ 25 students per class, 2 classes per grade level
- ◇ Uniform-based dress code
- ◇ Ability-grouped instruction for Reading and Math
- ◇ Traditional calendar (adjusted from LPS)
- ◇ School hours: 8:15 AM to 3:20 PM
- ◇ Kindergarten sessions: 8:15 AM to 11:10 AM and 12:25 PM to 3:20 PM
- ◇ Transportation provided by parents
- ◇ Catered lunch program sponsored by volunteers (optional)

## Governance

- ◇ Elected Governing Board members responsible for oversight of all school operations
- ◇ Professional Administration/Faculty responsible for daily operations and educational program

### 2009-2010 Governing Board

Stephen Haag, President  
John McKnight, Vice President  
Shelly Cox, Secretary  
Gary Blaylock, Treasurer  
Hari Dallakoti, Board Member  
Steve Patterson, Board Member  
Tom Schafer, Board Member

## Facility

- ◇ 23 Classrooms, including Spanish, Music, and Art
- ◇ Computer Lab: 27 station, Pentium multi-media units with access to CARL and the Internet, LAN
- ◇ Gymnasium
- ◇ Library
- ◇ Field

## Parent Participation

Parents help make the difference at Littleton Academy. Volunteerism is essential for our continuing success, is expected and greatly appreciated by all.

*Welcome to*

# Littleton Academy

*A Public School of Choice  
Established  
September 3, 1996*

## *Our Mission*

*To provide each student with*

- \* A content-rich, academically rigorous education
- \* Using a well-defined, sequential curriculum
- \* In a safe, orderly and caring environment

**Jan Pote, Principal**  
**Donna Lyda, Vice-Principal**

1200 West Mineral Avenue  
Littleton, Colorado 80120  
Phone: 303-798-5252  
Fax #: 303-798-0298  
Web Site: [littletonacademy.net](http://littletonacademy.net)

### The 2009-2010 Open House Schedule

Wednesday, January 20, 2010  
Wednesday, April 7, 2010  
**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

2010-2011 Kindergarten Information  
Night, Parents Only  
**January 21, 2010, 6pm**