

Charter Day School



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Charter Schools Week 2000

Charter Day School hosts open house for public.

In honor of National Charter Schools Week 2000, Charter Day School has scheduled an open house and campus tour for the public on Saturday, May 6 from noon until 4 PM.

Staff will be on hand to discuss the school's Direct Instruction curriculum and how this curriculum fulfills the school's goal of challenging every child to their fullest potential. For example, the objective for Kindergarten is that every child becomes a reader before entering first grade.

The school's use of advanced technology will be demonstrated at the open house. A \$60,000 start-up grant from the federal government will be used to install a high-speed campus-wide computer network with broadband Internet access. The open house will feature a pilot demonstration of the school's Internet access capabilities and the multimedia video and surround-sound system that will be in each class room. Using her large screen projector and sound system, a teacher can take her class on a tour of the Grand Canyon, or to a Carnegie Hall concert, or view art in the world's great museums. Thus, the system creates a virtually boundless horizon for the learning environment.

The school's Internet access will also let each parent be given a password to see their child's grades and progress at any time. They can also see upcoming assignments and work that may be overdue. The open house will provide demonstrations of this capability and discuss the many options of how parents can get access to the Internet at the school and at local libraries and community centers, as well as economical plans for acquiring in-home access.

The open house will be at the Hood Creek Community Building on Highway 87 South (Maco Road) at Highway 74-76 next to its 50-acre wooded campus in northern Brunswick County.

National Charter Schools Day 2000 is supported by President Bill Clinton and Secretary of Education Richard Riley. The United States is home to about 1,700 charter public schools, including 97 in North Carolina. Some 350,000 children attend these U.S. schools, which are free and open to all students. Educators, community leaders, business people, and parents who start charters select the curriculum, the philosophy, and the educational focus of the schools, such as back-to-basics foundation, technology focus, or other educational emphasis.

Charter Day School is accepting students in grades K, 1, and 2 to begin operation in August 2000. The school will add a grade each year thereafter leading to a full K-through-12 campus.

“Charter Day School will serve students in Columbus, Brunswick, and New Hanover Counties,” says Mr. Baker Mitchell, trustee for the school. “The school is supported by your tax dollars so it is tuition-free. Enrollment is open to all students, under provisions of statutes governing the state's charter schools,” he added.

“A number of students have already enrolled, but many parents still do not realize that charter schools are tuition-free; and they are reluctant to investigate. In addition to our comprehensive curriculum and state-of-the-art facilities, we are trying hard to heighten awareness of the fact that we are free-of-charge, tax funded, and open to all students,” he added.

Saturday's open house will include a tour of the wooded campus where site clearing has already begun. “The school's classroom buildings will be placed around a large central courtyard where the flagpole will be located, and this site plan has been approved by Central Planning in Bolivia,” Mr. Mitchell said. “Our school will begin each day with the students standing as the flag is raised to our National Anthem, after which they will say the Pledge Allegiance,” he adds.

Anyone interested in attending the school is invited to attend this Saturday's open house, or they may visit the web site at www.RogerBacon.net for more information and to be placed on the mailing list. Or interested parties may call Charter Day School at 796-1214 to receive more information.