

Charter Day School



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Call Mark Cramer or Baker Mitchell at 796-1214.

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Brunswick County Charter School Set To Open

With only minor construction items left to complete over the next two weeks, Charter Day School and The Roger Bacon Academy will be ready to open on schedule July 18 for Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade classes, according to school officials.

“The classrooms are in place, CP&L has completed their electrical work, the street lights are on, the well is producing great water, and the septic field is installed,” stated Mr. Mark Cramer, Headmaster. “During the next two weeks we will install the decks, hook up the plumbing and electrical to the buildings, grade out the playgrounds, and have the facility inspected for its final permits,” he added. The classroom furniture arrived some time ago and is in storage awaiting completion of the buildings, according to Mr. Cramer.

“We are also fully staffed with our certified teaching personnel and an enthusiastic group of experienced teachers’ aids,” Mr. Cramer said. “Our target is a maximum of eleven-to-one student-staff ratio, and we are well within that target now.” he added. “We were also fortunate to attract one of the area’s premier day-care managers, Ms. Kristen Bradham, to head up our after-school programs,” he said.

“The school is now set to grow into a full K-12 institution and achieve an accreditation that will stand alongside the best schools in the country,” said Mr. Charles Connell, a board Trustee. “We want all students of The Academy to be able to attend the university of their choice upon graduation, if that is their desire,” he said. “The wooded 50-acre campus site at Highway 74 and 87 South conveniently creates an ideal setting for our excellent staff to develop such a school,” he said. Mr. Connell is the former Superintendent of Schools of a 12,000-student district on Long Island. He retired to the Cape Fear area and is continuing his dedication to education as a Trustee for the school.

Regarding enrollment, Mr. Cramer said at this time there were still openings, but he could not predict how long they would be available. “The charter school in Wilmington has now filled up, and the Winston-Salem Academy charter school has over 250 students on their waiting list,” said Cramer. “Charter schools have become very popular, and I would advise anyone who wants their child to attend to call as soon as possible,” he added.

Asked about low test scores at some charter schools, Mr. Cramer stressed that each charter school has its own unique mission to meet particular local needs and that some charter schools were formed for the exclusive benefit of at-risk and special-needs children. “Therefore, those charter schools that serve at-risk and special-needs students will tend toward lower test scores. Other charter schools were formed to better serve gifted and talented students, and these schools have produced extremely high test scores in the 80th and 90th percentiles,” he said. “It is a mistake to lump all charter schools together as a group – each charter school was formed for a specific local purpose or to fulfill a specific local need and should be judged only on how well it is fulfilling its own unique mission.” he concluded.

“Our focus is for parents seeking a caring classroom environment that emphasizes traditional values and direct instructional methods. Every student who wishes to fulfill high expectations for diligence, discipline, and devotion to seeking knowledge regardless of ability should consider Charter Day School,” Mr. Cramer said. “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.

Headmaster Cramer was formerly the Administrator and Principal for MBA Academy, a private school serving US citizens in Okinawa, Japan. Before becoming MBA’s Principal, Mr. Cramer retired at the rank of Major after 20 years’ service in the US Marine Corps. Upon returning to the Cape Fear area, Mr. Cramer joined The Roger Bacon Academy to apply his experience in education, administration, leadership, and team building as its Headmaster and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Cramer was also on the board of Wilmington Christian Academy for several years, where he chaired their Long Range Planning Committee.

Anyone interested in the school may visit the web site at www.RogerBacon.net for more information and to receive an application. Also, interested parents may call Ms. Michele Duncan at 796-1214 to receive an application.