

Charter Day School



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Trustees

Mark T. Cramer
Headmaster
The Roger Bacon Academy
Maj., USMC Retired

James H. Faison, III
District Court Judge
New Hanover County

Misty R. Garrell
Banker Assistant II
First Citizens Bank

Donnie Norris
Business Banking,
BB&T, Leland

Steve MacCurry
Investments.

Baker A. Mitchell, Jr.
The Roger Bacon Academy

Ron Mercer
Operations Manager
Southport Ferry System

Beth Quinn
Branch Manager
First Citizens Bank

Edward M. Rhodes, President
Focustar Marketing, Inc.

Council of Advisors

Phil Harvell, V-P
First Citizens Bank

Ronnie McNeill, COO
Life Care Health Systems

Councilman Jim Quinn
Wilmington, NC

Matt Waters, Consultant
Public Relations

Charter Day School Earns Top Academic Honor Unique to Region

Brings First "Top 25" Award to Cape Fear Region

In 1996, when North Carolina established the ABC's of accountability to rank the academic performance of the state's public schools, the highest award for K-8 schools was called the "Top 25 Schools in Academic Growth." Over the years the name for the award has been shortened to "25 Most Improved Schools," but the honor still goes to, "Those 25 schools that have attained the State's highest values on the exemplary growth composite," out of the more than 1,800 elementary schools state-wide.

In the 10 years since this award has been granted, no school in Brunswick, New Hanover, or Pender County has ever achieved this highest recognition – until now. The Roger Bacon Academy ~ Charter Day School has been awarded the state-wide top honor for its exemplary academic growth for the academic year 2004-2005, according to an announcement by Headmaster Mark Cramer. "Our campus-wide positive behavioral reinforcement system and our Direct Instruction curriculum coupled with the skill and loving devotion of our staff and the concerted efforts of the students are responsible for this success," said Mr. Cramer. "We feel privileged to be able to bring this honor to our region."

As a free public charter school, Charter Day receives no funds for facilities or transportation and must pay rent for its facilities out of the operating funds received from the state and counties. One beneficial result of this funding formula is that taxpayers save nearly \$3,000 per student, per year for students attending Charter Day, making the school's commendable results on state tests an even greater achievement. "An unfortunate by-product of this funding inequity is that, when combined with the state's current limit of 100 charter schools, our ability to be responsive to community demands for expansion can be quite challenging," according to school founder Baker Mitchell. "Thus, artificial limitations to growth are needlessly stunting the spread of successful, proven educational initiatives such as Charter Day School."

Founded in 2000 with 53 students in grades K-2, Charter Day is a model educational program managed and operated by The Roger Bacon Academy. This year, the school has 620 students in grades K-7 from New Hanover, Brunswick, Pender, Columbus, and Bladen Counties. It was designated a School of Distinction for 2003 and for 2004. This year, in addition to its top 25 designation, unique for our area, it is an *Honor School of Excellence*. The state average for all K-8 schools is 80.9% of students at or above grade level, but Charter Day achieved the "Excellence" title with 91.9% of its students at or above grade level.

The Roger Bacon Academy ~Charter Day School is located 15 minutes west of Wilmington on 52 wooded acres just off Highway 74-76 on H87 South. Anyone interested in applying to the school may call Ms. Connie Hall at 655-1214, ext. 105. For all other information, please contact Maggie O'Leary at 655-1214, ext. 106.

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