



SOCRATES ACADEMY

The Greek Heritage belongs to humanity and not just to Greeks

A North Carolina Public Charter School in South Mecklenburg County

Announcing

*an exciting new educational opportunity for K-1 students in
Mecklenburg and surrounding counties in 2005-2006*

*You are cordially invited to learn more about Socrates Academy. The Board of Directors
welcomes your interest and participation in the planning year for Socrates Academy.*

Registration is underway. Application deadline is May 1, 2005.

Application forms at: SocratesAcademy.us

Opening date: August 2005

What is a North Carolina Public Charter School?

Charter schools are publicly funded schools operated according to the Charter Schools Act (1996). Charter schools are non-sectarian, non-discriminatory, and non-selective in their admissions practices, and they must comply with the reporting/testing requirements established by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Charter schools are charged with bringing new ideas, innovation, and high standards of accountability to North Carolina's public schools.

What is the Mission of Socrates Academy?

"To work in partnership with parents and community to encourage our students to reach their full potential by developing critical analytical thinking skills and becoming self-confident in a high achievement, multicultural, disciplined environment. Particular emphasis will be placed on developing proficiency in mathematics, reading and writing, both in English and Greek through the use of the Socratic Method."

Is the Academy working in partnership with other entities?

Socrates Academy has established strong partnerships with the UNC Charlotte College of Education, the Greek Ministry of National Education, the Hellenic American National Council, and the YMCA.

Who is managing the Academy?

Socrates Academy is managed by its Board of Directors via the authority vested by the NC State Board of Education, and is responsible for all aspects of the School's operations. An Advisory Board has also been created to identify, consider and discuss issues at the Academy, and provide advice and counsel to the Board of Directors. Several committees have also been established to help achieve the goals of the school.

What is the tuition for the Socrates Academy?

Like all public schools, there is no charge for attending Socrates Academy. There will be optional Before and After School Programs with tutoring and enrichment activities for which there will be a charge.

What grade levels will be served by Socrates Academy?

The Academy will open with Grades K-1, and will add a grade each year so that by the year 2009 the Academy will be serving Grades K-5. The Academy's enrollment goal for the 2005-2006 school year is 100 students. If the number of applications exceeds the number of open seats, a random selection drawing,

known as lottery, will determine admissions. If the number of applications does not exceed the number of open seats, all applicants will receive an acceptance letter for their respective academies and grades. Applicants not accepted will be placed on a waiting list in the order their names were drawn.

In order to accommodate parents who have more than one child eligible for academy enrollment, siblings of accepted or currently enrolled students are given preference over students who don't have siblings.

What is the curriculum?

The Academy's bilingual, multicultural curriculum will follow both the North Carolina Standard Course of Study (language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, art, and music) and the National Greek Curriculum Standards (language arts, mathematics, and Greek culture).

The curriculum is an innovative research-based curriculum, developed by the Socrates Academy Curriculum Committee, which is made up of several distinguished faculty from UNC Charlotte with expertise in various aspects of education, English and other languages, mathematics, and technology. It is modeled after the Archimedean Academy's curriculum, a charter school in Florida, which started three years ago, ranked first in its county in mathematics and second in reading. It is important to note that only 10% of the students of the Archimedean Academy are of Greek heritage, and students from diverse cultures and backgrounds have greatly profited from this approach. While part of each school day will be taught in Greek, no prior knowledge of Greek is required.

Instruction will rely on the Socratic Method to foster critical analytic thinking. The program will be characterized by high academic quality and a special emphasis in mathematics, reading, writing, and character development.

Why Greek?

The Greek heritage belongs to humanity and not just to Greeks. It is the foundation of our western civilization for architecture, literature, fine arts, the sciences, our educational and political systems and much more. A large percentage of English words are directly derived from Greek, and thousands of terms used in mathematics, science, and technology are of Greek origin.

By embracing the world-class language, history and civilization of Greece, Socrates Academy students will be well prepared for higher education, and develop a competitive advantage in their professional endeavors.

Why Socrates Academy?

- ✓ High quality multicultural environment that challenges students to reach their potential
- ✓ Safe and disciplined learning environment
- ✓ Active engagement of parents and community
- ✓ A curriculum that emphasizes analytical critical thinking by use of the Socratic Method
- ✓ Emphasis on character values such as ethical behavior, responsibility, teamwork, compassion, sharing, and integrity
- ✓ Suitable planned facilities conducive to learning
- ✓ Small number of students and class size

A unique choice to parents by serving a special niche in the education of our country

Volunteers Are Welcome

to join the Academy Board of Directors' standing and ad hoc committees,
which are the backbone of Academy-based decision making

For more information, please call:

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***Challenge Your Children...Join Socrates Academy!
Give them the opportunity...to be the best that they can be!***