



STRIDE Pride
Newsletter

October 8, 2009

Charter School, What?

The September, 2009 issue of *Phi Delta Kappan* list the Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools. The Gallup Poll asked numerous questions concerning charter schools and the charter school movement. Almost two out of three Americans approve of charter schools. While the approval rating for charter schools has increased 15% over the past five years, there is clear evidence that the nation is split on the facts about charter schools. The majority of Americans believe charter schools can teach religion, charge tuition or select who attends the school based on ability.

While it is true that charter schools are free of many bureaucratic policies, we are still held to a very high standard and must follow "public education" standards.

All STRIDE Parents should be able to Correct Misunderstandings:

1. STRIDE (charter schools) are held to ALL academic standards of No Child Left Behind. Our students take the state test and STRIDE is held accountable for their performance.
2. STRIDE accepts ALL students and CANNOT choose students based on ability, race, gender, disability, religion, etc. We conduct an annual lottery for new incoming students and STRIDE maintains and embraces a diverse student population.
3. STRIDE is TUITION FREE...FREE...WE DO NOT CHARGE...PUBLIC SCHOOL
4. STRIDE does not teach religion. We respect religion and teach about religion in a historical context as it pertains to learning objectives.

The support for charter schools is clear and growing. President Obama supports charters and Education Secretary Duncan stated, "The charter movement is one of the most profound changes in American Education- bringing new options to under served communities and introducing competition and innovation into the education system."

My challenge to parents and staff is to be able to effectively correct the misunderstandings about STRIDE within the community.

-Jason Ulbrich, Education Director





Mrs. Weyer's Kindergarten News

What a fall it is turning out to be! The kindergartners are learning many new things. In science we have been discussing the seasons and how a tree looks each season of the year. In Core Knowledge we have learned the saying: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. The Golden Rule is very important for kindergartners to understand. We are also journaling daily about the different feelings we may have and how we react to those feelings (i.e. do we hit when we are angry or do we go to a room by ourselves and take deep breaths to calm down?). We have learned the rhymes: This Little Piggy, and One, Two, Buckle My Shoe. The Core Knowledge Literature stories that we have read include The Little Red Hen, and The Three Little Pigs.

We have very busy days at STRIDE Academy and it is most helpful for parents to read with their children at home and go over any of the work that is coming home.

Have a wonderful Fall!

Mrs. Weyer



Amore



Don't forget to get your Italian Dinner/Silent Auction tickets for October 24th!! Thanks to all parents involved in the planning and preparation of this successful event.



REMINDER: When picking up your children after school please remember there is NO PARKING in the Drop off Zone. This backs the traffic up too much. Thanks....



After School Program News

Our year is off to a great start. The students enjoy having time to get their work done and play with their friends at the end of the day. October will be here before we know it. We have two days off in October-the 15th and the 16th. We will be having the all day program those two days. On October 15th we will be in the art room since I will be busy having conferences in my room. On the 16th we will have the program back in my classroom.

New Rule for After School: We are asking the students not to play with any toys that are brought from home. We have had some issues with the toys having weapons and inappropriate play. If we see the toy during the program the staff will take it and give it to the parent when it is time for that student to go home.

If you have any questions about the After School Program please contact me at 230-5340 ext. 120, vweyer@strideacademy.org, the classroom by stopping in, or by the school cell phone that is used after hours: 282-9138.

Thank you,
Mrs. Valerie Weyer

THANK YOU ! THANK YOU ! THANK YOU ! THANK YOU !

STRIDE Academy couldn't exist without the participation of our volunteers. We are very grateful for your efforts in helping with projects we offer you.

Some of these projects have included grilling at the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, front of-fice help, weeding around the school building, sweeping the parking lot, making copies, gluing art projects, cutting, helping in the classroom, attending meetings, going on field trips, distributing coffee and even donations of supplies and/or dollars.

We will continue to keep you posted on volunteer opportunities through email. Let us know how you want to be involved by responding back to the email or by calling the Volunteer Coordinator, Lynn Imholte, at 320 230-5340.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS !!!







