



WESTLAKE CHARTER ELEMENTARY

A nonprofit, coeducational, English-language, public charter school.

Vision

- ★ A learning environment that actively engages students in a challenging program that leads to academic success.

Primary Mission

- ★ To prepare elementary students with the skills necessary for life-long learning by providing a physically and emotionally safe learning environment that supports academic risk-taking, invites student participation, and structures cooperative learning experiences.

Related Objectives

- ★ The subject knowledge, skills and understandings students need to become aware of the world around them.
- ★ The personal skills students need to take an active part in the world throughout their lives.
- ★ An international mind set alongside awareness of their own nationality and culture.

Learning Environment

- ★ Inquiry-based
- ★ Inclusive
- ★ Participative
- ★ Thematic

Image

- ★ Outstanding faculty, involved parents, happy students

Expectations of Students

- ★ Develop self-potential (self-motivation, self-regulation, creativity, open inquiry, independent thinking, personal decision making, adaptability, leadership, and passion for learning).
- ★ Connect with the world (international outlook, local awareness, collaborative problem solving, open communication, receptivity to ideas of others, respect for every individual, and knowledge and appreciation of different cultures and beliefs).

Expectations of Parents

- ★ Support the school in every possible way (time, energy, money)
- ★ Inquire about their child's learning every day.
- ★ Partner in the learning process by maintaining high expectations of their child at home.

Why charter?

- ★ Ensures that deserving students have an opportunity to obtain this highest esteemed quality education regardless of family financial resources.
- ★ Facilitates the creation of a multi-cultural student population representative of the diverse population of Natomas.

What is a charter school?

- ★ Usually created or organized by a group of teachers, parents, and community leaders, or a community-based organization.
- ★ A public school usually authorized by an existing local school board or county board of education.
- ★ An agreement (or "charter") between the authorizing board and charter organizers details, specific goals, and operating procedures.

What is the purpose of a charter school?

- ★ Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods.
- ★ Create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.
- ★ Provide parents and students with expanded educational opportunities within the public school system.
- ★ Provide competition within the public school system to stimulate improvements in all public schools.

Open admissions

- ★ Equal access regardless of gender, religion, race, nationality, ethnicity, level of English, or family income.
- ★ Children in a family, who meet the federal school guidelines for economic support known as "Title One" or "Free or Reduced Lunch" subsidy **AND** the parents or chief guardians are not graduates of a four-year college or university (this preference shall apply to a maximum of 20% of total grade-level enrollment)
- ★ Applications accepted within a given enrollment window with a published deadline.
- ★ By state charter school law, limited spaces filled by lottery - not first come, first served.