

# ENTERPRISE CHARTER SCHOOL

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is a charter school?

A. A charter school is simply an independent public school and enrollment is free.

Q. Where is the school located?

A. 275 Oak Street, Buffalo, New York 14203 (We are centrally located in Buffalo; between Sycamore and Genesee, and Oak and Elm Streets.)

Q. What are the hours of operation?

A. Enterprise Charter School has a longer school year, from approximately the third week of August to the last week of June. The school also has a longer school day. We offer a Breakfast program beginning at 7:00 A.M. (parent transport) and an after-school program that ends at 5:30 P.M. (parent transport).

Q. What makes Enterprise Charter School unique?

A. Enterprise Charter School offers Project Based Learning (PBL) where students are motivated to pursue their own interests, question and make decisions about how they will find answers and solve problems. Children make connections to life outside the classroom, addressing real world concerns, and developing real world skills. These skills are intertwined into all subject areas of math, language arts, fine arts, geography, science, and technology. Many of the skills learned through PBL are those desired by today's employers, including the ability to work well with others, make thoughtful decisions, take initiative, and solve complex problems. Enterprise Charter School is also a *Leader in Me School* and practices the seven habits of highly effective people.

Q. What are some other unique characteristics of Enterprise Charter School?

A. Enterprise Charter School enhances learning through a teaching technique called looping. When applicable, teachers and students remain together for two years. This allows for more teaching time as teachers and students are familiar with each other and are aware of what is expected from day one.

Q. Who is eligible to attend Enterprise Charter School?

A. Any student in grade K – 8 from any school district may attend. Students must be 5 years of age by December 31, 2016 to be eligible for Kindergarten.

Q. Is there an entrance exam?

A. No. Entrance is by lottery which is held each year in April.

Q. How do I apply for enrollment into the school?

A. Contact the school at 716-855-2114 to request an application, stop by 275 Oak Street to pick up an application, or print out an application from our website at [www.enterprisecharter.org](http://www.enterprisecharter.org). One application is needed for each child applying to the school.

Q. I have three children. Will all of them get into the school?

A. Once the first child enrolls, the other siblings have preference when class space is available.

Q. What happens after the lottery?

A. All registrants are placed on a waiting list and notified by mail of their number on the list. When a position opens for a grade level, the first eligible student from the waiting list for that grade level will be called.

Q. Are applications still accepted after the lottery?

A. Applications are *always* accepted for all grade levels.

Q. Are special needs children accepted?

A. Yes. We offer special education services such as Consultant Teacher, Resource Room, Speech, Counseling, Occupational and Physical Therapy.

Q. Does Enterprise accommodate the needs of English Language Learners?

A. Yes. Programs are offered to challenge students as well as assist with second language acquisition.

Q. What types of specials are available at Enterprise?

A. Students enrolled in grades K-8 enjoy art, theatre, Spanish, physical education, and computers.

Q. Does the school have uniforms?

A. Yes. Uniform shirts and fleece jackets with our Enterprise Charter School logo are available for purchase at the school. Khaki (tan) pants, shorts, and skirts may be purchased at local retail stores.

Q. What is the discipline policy?

A. We believe that in order to make learning possible, a student must feel safe and the school climate must be conducive to study. Enterprise Charter School uses the PBIS Positive Behavioral Interventions Strategies. This program emphasizes positive reinforcement for appropriate behavior and works to change inappropriate behaviors. In addition, conflict resolution skills are built via members of the Student Advocacy Team.

Q. Can parents become involved?

A. We have a parent representative on our Board of Trustees to assist with governing the school. Parents are encouraged to join our PTO and family members are always welcome to volunteer in our classrooms and other areas of our school. We love to see parents at school when prior arrangements are made.

Q. How are decisions made?

A. The Board of Trustees provides governance and set policies, where day to day operations are run by the school's administrative staff.

Q. Is transportation available?

A. We utilize the Buffalo Board of Education's transportation system (yellow buses). We also have many students from suburban districts that ride suburban buses to our school.

Q. What if I have more questions?

A. Feel free to contact us at 716-855-2114 and we will be happy to assist you. You may also call to set up a tour of the school.