

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 Sts)

Q. What are the hours of operation?

A. Enterprise Charter School has a longer school year, from approximately the second week of August to the last week of June. The school also has a longer school day, from 9:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M. We offer a Breakfast program beginning at 7:00 A.M. (parent transport) and an after-school program until 6:00 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.

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

A. Enterprise Charter School enhances learning through a teaching technique called looping. 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. Also, family style lunches are served on a daily basis to impress on socialization skills.

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 31st 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 855-2114 to request an application or stop by 275 Oak Street to pick up an application. 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 for Consultant Teacher, Resource Room, Speech, Counseling, Occupational and Physical Therapy,

Q. Are gifted and talented programs and English as Second Language classes offered?

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

Q. What types of special programs are available at Enterprise?

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

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 Academic and Behavioral Competencies (ABC) program adopted from the University of Buffalo. This program emphasizes positive reinforcement for appropriate behavior and works to change inappropriate behaviors. In addition, conflict resolution skills are built using the Western New York Peace Center's program.

Q. Can parents become involved?

A. We have two parent representatives on our Board of Trustees to assist with governing the school. Parents are encouraged to join our PTA and family members are always welcome to volunteer in our classrooms and other areas of our school. We love to see parents at school.

Q. How are decisions made?

A. The Board of Trustees provide 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 855-2114 and we will be happy to assist you. You may also call to set up a tour of the school.