

*Our*

# ACADEMIC

*Options*

AN OVERVIEW OF OUR SCHOOL PROGRAMS

AMERICAN HERITAGE  
CHARTER SCHOOLS



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**OUR MISSION**  
IS TO DEVELOP  
THE HEARTS AND MINDS  
OF OUR STUDENTS THROUGH A  
**RIGOROUS CORE CURRICULUM,**  
WITH A PERSPECTIVE THAT  
**CHERISHES TIMELESS VIRTUES**  
AND THE AMERICAN SPIRIT.

## **OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

Students in elementary school are receptive to learning factual information and will readily memorize. At this age, we focus on fundamental skills and knowledge that will help them to learn more as they mature. In English, we focus on the fundamentals of language - spelling, writing, and reading. In mathematics, we use Saxon Math to teach foundational skills centered on numbers, functions, equations, and practical uses for math. We introduce our students to primary concepts in science, history, art, and music, and we help them to develop the practical skills of observation, listening, and memorization as they build their own framework for learning.

As they progress to junior high, students begin to recognize that they are a part of a larger human family, and it is important to introduce them to the best and brightest members of that family. Through the study of Great Books and the history of western civilization, we build the context for a greater understanding of the modern world. By the time students reach high school, they can use language and logic in an eloquent manner to persuade others and to express their own thoughts and feelings effectively. We offer a rigorous curriculum that emphasizes strong language skills, develops critical thinking capabilities, and enhances problem-solving faculties.

Starting in kindergarten and continuing on through high school, we place a strong emphasis on our heritage. We embrace the philosophy of the Founders and hope to pass along important values to the next generation. We want to highlight our history, and we want our students to understand that this grand experiment in self government, which has suffered through great trials, will require their careful attention as they become tomorrow's leaders. Furthermore, we believe that students need to be well-rounded for success in life. To that end, we focus on character building with an emphasis on the traditional values of hard work, integrity, and personal responsibility. In our classrooms, on the field, and in our curricular clubs, we emphasize truth, honor, and compassion. Our students are regularly provided with opportunities to serve their community and build their leadership skills. These personal skills complement and enhance their academic achievements.

# A SNAPSHOT OF OUR SCHOOLS, PROGRAMS, AND PATHWAYS

AHCS consists of four schools: Heritage Elementary School, Heritage Junior High School, Heritage Flex Academy, and Escondido Charter High School. All of our campuses are located on East Valley Parkway, Escondido.

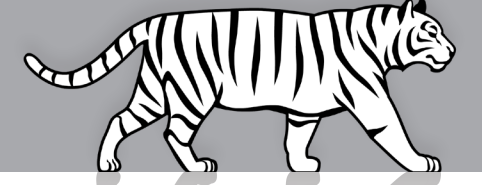
AHCS offers students at every grade level two educational experiences: Traditional Classroom and Flex Learning. Students who choose the Traditional Classroom experience will be on campus for a full day of instruction, five days a week. Students who choose the Flex Learning experience are presented with additional options (pathways) that determine their weekly campus schedule.

At Heritage Flex Academy, families can place their students in either the Hybrid Learning Pathway or the Home Learning Pathway. Students in the Hybrid Learning Pathway are on campus two days a week. Students in the Home Learning Pathway are educated full-time at home, with the option to spend Wednesdays on campus (see page 16 for more information on pathway specifics).

In the Escondido Charter High School Flex Program, families can place their students in either the Classical Learning Pathway or the

Personalized Learning Pathway. Students in the Classical Learning Pathway are on campus a minimum of four days a week. Students in the Personalized Learning Pathway are on campus a minimum of one hour a week to meet with their instructors (see page 18 for more information on pathway specifics).

It is important to note that students *are not bound indefinitely* to either the Traditional Classroom experience or the Flex Learning experience. Students are able to transfer from one to the other.



**TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE:**

**HERITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
GRADES TK-6

**HERITAGE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**  
GRADES 7&8

**ESCONDIDO CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL: TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM PROGRAM**  
GRADES 9-12

**FLEX LEARNING EXPERIENCE:**

**HERITAGE FLEX ACADEMY**  
GRADES TK-8

**ESCONDIDO CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL: FLEX PROGRAM**  
GRADES 9-12

**HYBRID LEARNING PATHWAY**  
*2 days/week on campus*

**HOME LEARNING PATHWAY**  
*Full-time at home, optional Wednesday*

**CLASSICAL LEARNING PATHWAY**  
*4 days/week on campus*

**PERSONALIZED LEARNING PATHWAY**  
*1 hour minimum on campus*

*The*

# TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM

*Experience*

# TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM GRADES TK-6

## HERITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1855 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

Heritage Elementary School serves students in transitional kindergarten through sixth grade in a traditional classroom setting. Our students work with one teacher in the same classroom throughout the day, with class sizes of twenty-five students or less. This intimate environment ensures that each student gets the attention he or she deserves.

At Heritage Elementary School, we follow an approach to learning, emphasizing Western literature and ideas and focusing on language as a vehicle for critical thinking. We also understand the value of art and music and seek to inspire imagination and creativity in an effort to educate the whole child.

Our fundamental curriculum is designed to provide our students with a springboard to higher-level thought. The skills they learn are tools to be used as they progress in their education. We believe that reading is the key that unlocks the door to the greatest minds in history. That is why we introduce our students to Great Books in the sixth grade, when they are old enough to understand and young enough to benefit.

We call our approach to learning Core Knowledge, which combines sequenced and deliberate communication skills practice with a content-rich curriculum. Through their English Language Arts courses, students are immersed in literature, science, art, geography, and history that provide them with a broad understanding of the world they live in and creates a solid foundation for continued educational advancement.

Our Core Knowledge approach to education ensures mastery of foundational skills in math, reading, writing, history, and science. We help students develop the important faculties of observation, listening, and memorization through class activities that are designed to train their young minds and help them develop personal learning strategies that will make learning easier over time.

To complement the knowledge-based curriculum of Core Knowledge, students at Heritage Elementary School also experience hands-on, inquiry-based learning through Project Lead The Way (PLTW), a science curriculum with a combined emphasis in computer science, engineering, and biomedicine. Open-ended and collaborative tasks help students learn science concepts through modules that require students to explore, create, test their assumptions, and revise their approach based on data and feedback.

### Parental Involvement

At Heritage Elementary, we believe that parents are the primary educators and are responsible for the moral and intellectual development of their children. We work in partnership with parents to help them fulfill those responsibilities. We encourage parents to participate in their student's education and become involved in every aspect of this process.

### American Heritage

We seek to instill in our students an appreciation for American heritage and a love for our country and the freedoms we enjoy. We embrace the philosophy of the Founders and hope to pass along that flame of liberty to the next generation. We honor those who have given their last full measure of devotion.

### Character Counts

At Heritage Elementary, we believe deeply that a complete education of the whole child includes the development of character. We have identified several virtues that we feel are essential to a well-rounded person, and we focus on them throughout the school year. We use age-appropriate books, lessons, and classroom discussions with positive messages to introduce concepts such as integrity, industriousness, and responsibility to our students. Specifically, we have adopted Coach John Wooden's "Pyramid of Success" as a framework to discuss what it means to live a happy, meaningful life. Each month, we highlight a specific, positive character trait and award students who have demonstrated the virtues during fun-filled "Wooden Wins!" assemblies.



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**5 FULL DAYS/WEEK ON CAMPUS**  
**LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, SCIENCE, HISTORY, ART, MUSIC, AND P.E.**  
**WOODEN WINS** CHARACTER EDUCATION  
**21-STUDENT** AVG CLASS SIZE  
**RIGOROUS** PREPARATION FOR HJHS COURSEWORK  
**CO-CURRICULAR** OPPORTUNITIES  
FOCUSED ON **FUNDAMENTALS & VIRTUE**  
**CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL**

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## TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM GRADES 7&8

### HERITAGE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2255 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

Heritage Junior High is a classroom-based Traditional Learning option for grades seven and eight. At this stage, our role is to take students who have acquired fundamental knowledge in elementary school and help them develop the critical thinking skills they will need as they move on to high school. Our curriculum is rigorous, but that rigor is necessary to prepare them for the challenging academics at Escondido Charter High School.

At Heritage Junior High, we understand the challenges of adolescence, but we also appreciate the intellectual capabilities at this age. By the time students reach the seventh grade, they have honed their skills in observation, listening, and memorization, and have developed their own framework for learning. They have processed a large amount of fundamental knowledge and can now put that knowledge to use as their critical thinking abilities increase.

In the seventh and eighth grades, students begin to develop a sense of their own identity and independence. They often ask sincere questions and search for the reasons behind long-held principles and beliefs. This is a time when their reasoning capabilities are coming to the forefront and they can more easily be shown how to develop logical arguments that lead to correct conclusions supported by facts. Math skills at this level require the exercise of abstract thought, extending the boundaries of their fundamental skills. In language, students progress from learning the rules of grammar to assembling sound logical arguments.

### Focus on Fundamentals

Even as students are introduced to higher-order thinking, we remain committed to a focus on fundamentals. Reading and writing are essential to academic success, so we emphasize both. Heritage Junior High uses a Great Books curriculum in its literature class and requires an additional course in academic writing for all students. For math, we use the Saxon method, which is the same method used in our elementary and high schools, giving our students a seamless transition from one school to the next. We teach physical science and earth science and help our students to understand the scientific method. Our history classes focus on western civilization and U.S. history. We believe it is imperative for our students to understand the roots of our uniquely American culture, so they can place current events in perspective. We offer enrichment courses in the arts and curricular clubs to help round out each student's experience.

### After-School Assistance

We have high academic expectations for our students, but we also provide the means for them to be successful. Every teacher is dedicated to helping each and every student. During the day, students attend a Math Lab class, which provides a second opportunity for students to work on their math homework and receive individual assistance from their teacher. In addition, tutorials are offered after school, four days a week, for every academic course.

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5 DAYS/WEEK ON CAMPUS  
7 PERIODS OF INSTRUCTION/DAY  
21-STUDENT AVG CLASS SIZE  
**RIGOROUS** PREPARATION FOR ECHS COURSEWORK  
**GREAT BOOKS** INSPIRED CURRICULUM  
**CO-CURRICULAR** OPPORTUNITIES  
**PROJECT LEAD THE WAY** COURSES  
**ATHLETIC, CLUB, AND LEADERSHIP** OPPORTUNITIES  
**CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL**

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## TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM GRADES 9-12

### ESCONDIDO CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM PROGRAM

1868 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

Our primary focus at Escondido Charter High School is to prepare students for success in college. We understand that not all students will seek careers that require a college degree, but we want to send them out into the world with all options open to them. We believe that a rigorous curriculum that emphasizes strong language skills, develops critical thinking capabilities, enhances problem-solving faculties, highlights American history and western thought, and challenges students with advanced math and science coursework is the key to preparing students for success in college.

In the Traditional Classroom Program, students attend classes five days a week for six periods a day in classrooms in small class settings. Traditional classroom activities include lectures (with note-taking), class activities, small group discussions, and student presentations. In this setting, students develop traditional learning strategies that will help them to be successful in college courses.

At ECHS, 97% of our students attend college after graduation. Our success stems from our ability to challenge the students with rigorous curriculum taught by caring teachers.

One of the key features of our approach is the emphasis we place on Great Books and academic writing. The Great Books program introduces our students to the best minds and loftiest ideals in western civilization, while our academic writing program helps them to develop the technical writing skills they will need in college.

In addition to advanced reading and writing courses, our students are

also challenged to take advanced math and science courses, as well as AP courses in many subjects.

#### Graduation Requirements

ECHS TCP offers students two academic diploma plans. The advanced academic diploma plan is designed to ensure that students meet the entrance requirements of the California State Universities, University of California, and other highly competitive universities. The academic diploma plan is available for students seeking entry to California State Universities and similar institutions. Both the advanced academic and academic diploma plans are available (with slight variations) to all students at ECHS.

Choosing an appropriate diploma plan depends on the post-graduation goals of the student. Making a decision about the best diploma is an important decision and should involve the student, parent, and appropriate school administrators.

**Advanced Academic Diploma (260 Credits):** The advanced academic diploma plan is designed for students who are planning to attend the University of California system or other highly competitive schools. All students entering this program must be prepared to take college preparatory courses in English, science, mathematics, and first year foreign language as a freshman.

**Academic Diploma (230 Credits):** The academic diploma plan is designed for students who are planning to attend California State Universities and colleges with equivalent entrance requirements.

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**5 DAYS/WEEK ON CAMPUS**  
**6 PERIODS OF INSTRUCTION/DAY**  
**2 CREDIT PLAN OPTIONS**  
**21-STUDENT AVG CLASS SIZE**  
**COLLEGE PREP & AP COURSES**  
**CAREER TECHNICAL ELECTIVES**  
**GREAT BOOKS INSPIRED CURRICULUM**  
**PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS CLASSES**  
**A COMPLETE ATHLETICS PROGRAM**  
**CAREER & COLLEGE PLANNING**  
**WASC ACCREDITED**

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*The*

**FLEX**

**LEARNING**

*Experience*

# FLEX LEARNING GRADES TK-8

## HERITAGE FLEX ACADEMY

2269 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

Heritage Flex Academy follows a classical approach to learning, emphasizing western literature and ideas and focusing on language as a vehicle for critical thinking. We also understand the value of art and music and seek to inspire imagination and creativity in an effort to educate the whole child.

### Educational Philosophy

At Heritage Flex Academy, we believe that parents have primary responsibility for the education of their children, and we are here to support them in that effort. Everything we do is centered on helping parent educators to be the best teachers they can be, whether they choose to bring their students into our classroom for a portion of the week or teach everything from home.

Our curriculum is designed to give students the tools they need to build a solid foundation of fundamental knowledge which they will use as a springboard to higher-level thought. Our curricula framework is a blend of E. D. Hirsch's Core Knowledge Sequence, California State Standards, and classical learning. We developed a rich humanities program integrating history with the great books. Students develop the critical-thinking and problem-solving skills necessary for success in life. They will also develop their imagination and creativity to help shape their futures and the future of our country. We believe that reading is the key that unlocks the door to the greatest minds in history, and we want our students not only to understand their ideas, but to advance those ideas with improvements.

At Heritage Flex Academy, we believe deeply that a complete education of the whole child includes the development of character. We have identified ten virtues that we feel are essential to a well-rounded person: honesty, self-control, responsibility, gratitude, kindness, diligence,

respect, courage, patience, and humility. We focus on one of these virtues each month we are in session and hope to inspire you with practical ideas to teach these virtues at home.

We take a classical approach to learning, focusing on western thought and educating both heart and mind. We teach from the Great Books and seek to create an environment where students can learn the fundamentals of math and science right alongside art and music.

### Personalized Support

Heritage Flex Academy reinvigorated a learning model that requires parent involvement on non-classroom days and enables parents to tailor the curriculum to their student's learning needs. Heritage Flex Academy encourages the family to spend time exploring their student's talents, strengths, and individual interests. This model invites parents to enter the educational journey alongside their student and to remain the primary influence in their student's growth in knowledge and character development. Building strong connections between home and school benefits both the students and their families. We know that, when parent educators and classroom teachers are highly engaged, student engagement and love of learning grows.

### A Second Opportunity for Parents.

When parents are intrinsically involved in the teaching of their own students, they often find that they enjoy learning some Latin, discussing the classics, examining more closely their conclusions in scientific research, and applying the logical steps of mathematical thought. Parents using the classical approach to education at home find that a whole new world of understanding begins to open up for them - and their students as well.



**- HOME LEARNING -**  
FULL-TIME AT HOME, OPTIONAL WED ON CAMPUS

**- HYBRID LEARNING -**  
**2 DAYS/WEEK ON CAMPUS (TUE/THUR OR WED/FRI)**  
EMPHASIS ON **READING, WRITING, MATH, SCIENCE, AND LATIN**  
**20-STUDENT AVG CLASS SIZE**

**RIGOROUS PREPARATION FOR ECHS COURSEWORK**  
**CLASSICALLY INSPIRED FRAMEWORK**  
**GREAT BOOKS CURRICULUM**  
**WOODEN WINS CHARACTER EDUCATION**  
**CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL**

## FLEX LEARNING GRADES 9-12

### ESCONDIDO CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FLEX PROGRAM

1868 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

The Escondido Charter High School Flex Learning option combines the best features of classroom instruction with the best features of online and blended learning in our Flex Lab. Students in Flex Learning have the ability to enroll in college courses while attending high school, receiving both high school and college credit for those courses. As a part of the Flex Learning option, students can choose to participate in full independent learning at home.

#### Classical Learning Pathway

Students who opt for the Flex Classical Learning Pathway (CLP) will take math, science, and foreign language, four days per week, in a traditional classroom setting. English and History are combined into a single Humanities course modeled after the Oxford model where students meet in small groups twice per week, with a mentor teacher, to hold seminar-style discussions on the reading. Additionally, beginning their sophomore year, they will select an emphasis in either art, music, or performing arts that will lead to a culminating showcase their senior year. These core courses deliver the same academic rigor found in TCP, and, likewise, help students to develop the learning strategies they will need to be successful in college.

In addition to classroom-based instruction, CLP delivers curriculum to students through various electronic platforms, enabling students to work independently and in small groups, with support from teachers on an individual basis. These exploratory and elective courses are designed to introduce students to subjects best suited for their individual interests and goals. To select elective courses, students work closely with a guidance counselor who takes into account their academic readiness, talents, and potential college majors.

As they demonstrate readiness, students are encouraged to enroll in college courses to focus on their academic interests, receive career technical training, and gain valuable college experience. Students who enroll in college while attending high school are able to earn college credits that apply to both their high school and college graduation requirements.

#### Personalized Learning Pathway

The Flex Personalized Learning Pathway (PLP) is designed for students who prefer greater flexibility in their learning. Students who choose this option meet with a credentialed teacher one day per week to receive guidance, instruction, and feedback. The sequence of coursework is established by the teacher working with the student and often focuses on one subject at a time. One of the great features of PLP is the ability to mix and match all of the elements available in this option. Students who prefer the PLP option can take classroom courses, enroll in college courses, and have access to Career Technical Education courses that have the potential to lead to certification and job readiness straight out of high school.

#### Graduation Requirements

ECHS Flex students may receive the same 260-credit and 230-credit academic diplomas available to TCP students (see *page 8 for more details*). Flex PLP students are also offered the opportunity to earn a 210-credit general diploma. The general diploma plan meets California State requirements for graduation, but does not meet the entrance requirements for California State Universities or colleges with equivalent entrance requirements. Students earning the 210 diploma are required to take a two-course study in a career pathway.

**- PERSONALIZED LEARNING PATHWAY -**  
**1-HOUR/WEEK** ON CAMPUS MINIMUM  
FULL-TIME **AT HOME** OPTION  
**3 CREDIT PLANS**

**- CLASSICAL LEARNING PATHWAY -**  
**4 DAYS/WEEK** ON CAMPUS  
**6 PERIODS** OF INSTRUCTION/DAY  
**2 CREDIT PLANS**

**CLASSICALLY INSPIRED** INTEGRATED HUMANITIES CURRICULUM  
**COLLEGE PREPARATORY**  
UP TO **6 PERIODS** A DAY  
**CAREER TECHNICAL** ELECTIVES  
ABILITY TO ENROLL IN **COLLEGE COURSES**  
EMPHASIS PLACED ON **ART AND MUSIC** INSTRUCTION  
A COMPLETE **ATHLETICS PROGRAM**  
**CAREER & COLLEGE** PLANNING  
**WASC ACCREDITED**



*The*

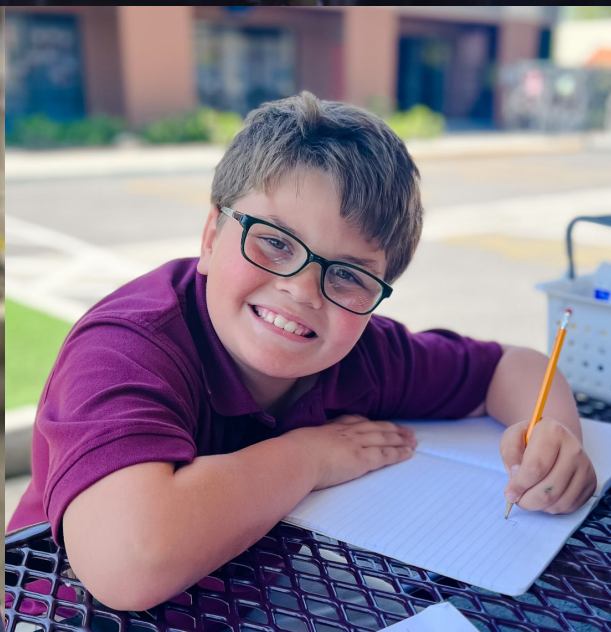
# AHCS

*Difference*

# RIGOROUS ACADEMICS AND HIGH EXPECTATIONS

At AHCS, we believe rigorous core curriculum and high expectations are essential for effective student development. We challenge each and every student to wrestle with difficult material and our incredible faculty provides students with the mentorship needed to understand complex concepts. We maintain that every student, regardless of background, needs and deserves to be educated in this way: from the perspective that he or she has an innate capacity to master challenging coursework when provided the right resources.

Across all grade levels, we encourage a love for our subject matter that extends beyond the classroom in order to foster a truly unique educational culture. We host student showcases that focus on the arts and humanities, and at the high school, we commemorate our favorite math book publisher with a truly one-of-a-kind celebration in the Fall. Every year, dozens of ECHS seniors join the Academic Motivator squad to help keep students enthusiastic about the pursuit of academic excellence.





# CLASSICALLY INSPIRED

WE PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A TRULY UNIQUE  
OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
**TIMELESS CONVERSATION**  
THAT SHAPED AMERICAN CULTURE

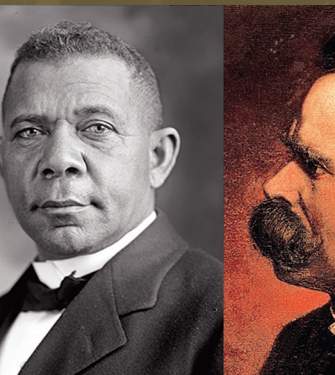
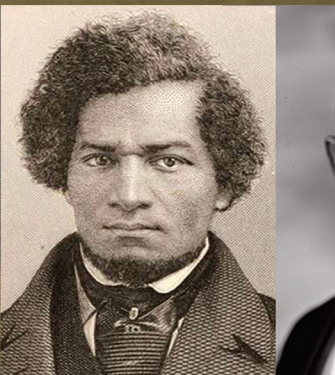
A few great stories, a few great authors, a few great books have profoundly shaped Western tradition and the American story we embrace. These books contain the collected wisdom from thousands of years of conversations about what it means to be human and what it means to live well. What if we could get these great authors into a room and get them talking to each other about the most fundamental and important questions in our lives? And what if we could place students in that room so they could listen to the conversation, ask questions, and even engage in the conversation themselves? That is what our Great Books program is doing. Teachers guide our students through the great conversation, and they train our students to read well, think well, and communicate well, so they can enter into that conversation themselves. We believe this unique approach to learning will profoundly change our students' lives.

At the K-8 level, our schools follow a classical approach to learning, emphasizing western literature and ideas and focusing on language as a vehicle for critical thinking. Our K-8 schools also understand the value of art and music and seek to inspire imagination and creativity in an effort to educate the whole child.

At the high school level, The ECHS Flex Learning Program offers a Classical Learning pathway, modeled after Oxford University's seminar-based learning option, that provides students with a robust curriculum focused on humanities and the arts. Core learning is centered on focused conversations, normally between two or three students and their Mentor Teacher. During these conversations, students have the opportunity to discuss the subject they are learning in depth, and they receive individual feedback on their work.

The ECHS Traditional Classroom Program English department has also implemented Great Books and regular seminar discussions into its curriculum. Students in TCP engage in the same robust reading list and conversations as the ECHS Flex CLP students but in a traditional, five-day-per-week format.

**Our Great Books reading list** includes (but is not limited to) the following works and authors: The *Torah* and other excerpts from the *Tanakh* as well as pertinent Rabbinic texts, Plato and Aristotle with excerpts from other Greek philosophers, Cicero, Virgil, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Dante, the Enlightenment philosophers (Descartes, Locke, Hobbes, Montesquieu, and Rousseau), the Federalist Papers (Hamilton and Madison), de Tocqueville, Milton, Dostoevsky, Melville, Camus, and Kierkegaard.



# A UNIQUE AND VIBRANT CAMPUS LIFE



DYNAMIC STUDENT COMMUNITY



FORMAL DANCES AND OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS



LIVELY ASSEMBLIES AND CEREMONIES



# CO-CURRICULAR & LEADERSHIP

# OPPORTUNITIES

AHCS gives students the opportunity to participate in clubs, performing and visual arts, career technical classes, Civil Air Patrol, ASB, and a full catalog of fall, winter, and spring sports. We encourage students to take advantage of these opportunities not only to broaden their formative experience but primarily to diversify their application of virtue and leadership skills in creative and challenging ways.



# EXCEPTIONAL MENTORSHIP



these advisors help students establish and navigate a pathway to either a career or post-secondary education.

A truly exceptional mentorship opportunity for our high school students is the annual Senior Exhibition. At ECHS, seniors in both CLP and TCP complete a yearlong research project on a topic of personal interest that requires them to work closely with a mentor teacher who guides

the entire process from beginning to end (similar to the crafting of a Master's thesis at the university-level but modified for twelfth grade). Mentorship during this project is not limited to the research aspect. Students must also formally present their projects to a panel of peers and adults at the end of the school year, so their mentor teachers also advise them regarding professional dress, effective speaking, and businesslike interpersonal interaction.

The AHCS staff is passionate about helping students realize their personal goals and challenging them to continually grow in virtue. Our faculty and coaches are some of the most dedicated individuals in the teaching profession, and their devotion to the AHCS mission is the key to what makes our schools so successful. Across all grade levels and in every program, our educators go above and beyond their standard instructional hours to provide students with the mentorship they need. Our teachers provide after-hour tutorials, they chaperone field trips

and social events, and they oftentimes play a central role in organizing community outreach excursions. Our sports coaches make character building the central goal of our junior high and high school athletics departments, and this approach has brought our teams great success.

In addition, our schools support students with academic advisors to help family's determine appropriate goals for their students, and to help coordinate that effort with the administrators and teaching staff. At the high school level,

## TO DEVELOP THE HEART AND THE MIND

# WE CHERISH AND SEEK TO FOSTER THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

At AHCS, we honor America's unique history and founding principles, and we appreciate the many thought leaders and historical figures who have contributed to America's enduring story.

Our students begin each day pledging allegiance to our nation's flag and attend various patriotic assemblies throughout the school year. We foster a culture of gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy in the United States by hosting events where our students have the ability to showcase the amazing people and philosophies that founded and have sustained our great nation.



Our campuses are adorned with pieces of art that commemorate our country's fundamental principles and call to mind the great struggles our fore fathers endured for the sake of the American experiment. Our high school student athletes compete in a gym that proudly displays a massive American flag that was retired from a U.S. Navy destroyer. A sculpture of Abe Lincoln is seated right outside the ECHS library, statues of children raising the flag stand at the ECHS main entrance, and a bronze rendition of the iconic "Spirit of '76" (pictured here) welcomes every visitor to the AHCS American Spirit Theater.



# OUR COMMUNITY IS SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE

AHCS campuses are safe and orderly learning environments. Our facilities, staff, and students are expected to behave and dress in a way that reflects the importance of the subject matter discussed at our schools. The significance of what we do is also reflected in the way we have designed, ceaselessly maintain, and thoughtfully upgrade our campuses. Because we encourage our students to be virtuous leaders, they naturally participate in the effort to keep school grounds presentable and organized.

## Safety on Campus

We consider student safety to be critically important, so we staff each campus with full-time security, perform routine evacuation drills, and train our community on how to handle emergencies. We believe our focus on building virtue within each student ultimately supports the effort to keep our campuses safe because virtuous students hold each other accountable and strive to meet a high moral standard. Our vision of a safe and supportive educational community is one in which students can readily access the support they need from their peers as well as their instructors, and we believe our organization succeeds in realizing this vision.

*Our*

# LEGACY

*of Success*



**PERCENTAGE OF TCP & CLP STUDENTS WHO ATTEND COLLEGE AFTER GRADUATION:**

# 90%



**SOME PRESTIGIOUS LIBERAL ARTS SCHOOLS ECHS GRADS HAVE ATTENDED:**

- Boston College
- Duke University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Princeton University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Yale University



**SOME PRESTIGIOUS STEM SCHOOLS ECHS GRADS HAVE ATTENDED:**

- California Polytechnic
- Cal-Tech
- Carnegie Mellon
- M.I.T.
- Rensselaer Polytechnic
- Stanford University
- UC San Diego



**DISTINGUISHED MILITARY ACADEMIES ECHS GRADS HAVE ATTENDED:**

- US Air Force Academy
- US Naval Academy, Annapolis
- West Point Military Academy



**OUR CAREER TECHNICAL CLASSES PREPARED STUDENTS WHO HAVE CAREERS IN:**

- Fire Services
- Emergency First Response
- Law Enforcement
- Engineering



**IMPRESSIVE INTERNSHIPS ECHS GRADS HAVE PERFORMED:**

- Fire and Police
- Northrop Grumman
- Palomar Healthcare
- SD Zoo Safari Park
- Viasat

# 2022 CAASPP COMPARISONS

## CALIFORNIA ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

At AHCS, we do not “teach to the test.” We believe, and our standardized testing results appear to confirm, that maintaining our unique hybrid of classical learning and proven STEM curriculum will yield exemplary results without having to over-

emphasize CAASPP performance in our classrooms. We take pride in the fact that, with student demographics that are nearly identical to those of our local public schools, all of our programs outperform state and county-wide testing averages.

