

Our Classically-

INSPIRED

Approach

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUR METHOD, DEFINITIONS,
AND UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

AMERICAN HERITAGE
CHARTER SCHOOLS



DEFINITIONS



Our foundation is
CLASSICAL

Our approach to education is based on certain key assumptions. (See page 2)



We teach
CORE KNOWLEDGE

Our curriculum focuses on fundamental stories and ideas, which create the common language and cultural structure of AHCS. (See page 3)



We pursue
TRUTH

That which corresponds to the way things actually are.



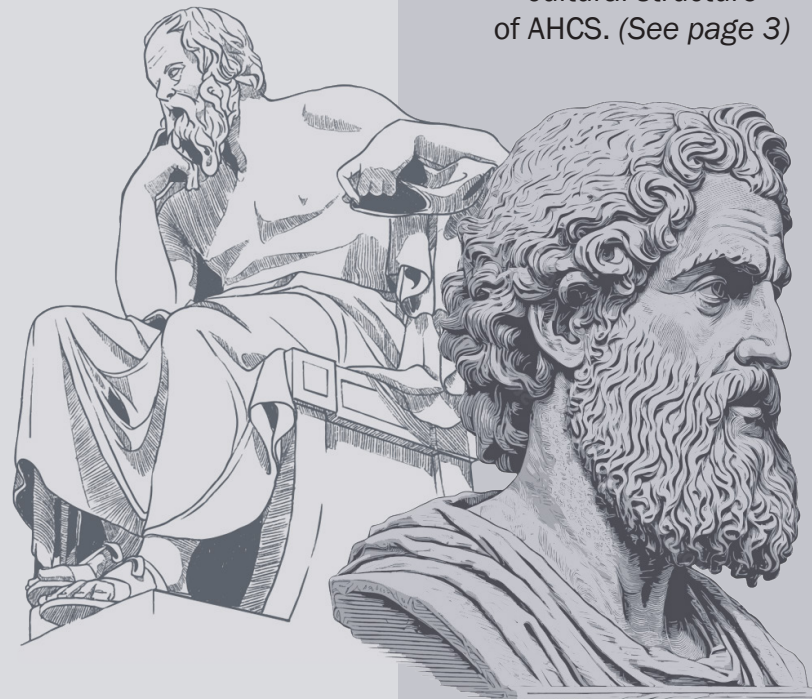
We promote
GOODNESS

That which allows for the fulfilment of human nature.



We recognize
BEAUTY

The experience of goodness and truth through our human senses.



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.

TO SAY OF WHAT IS THAT IT IS NOT, OR OF WHAT IS NOT THAT IT IS, **IS FALSE**. WHILE TO SAY OF WHAT IS THAT IT IS, AND OF WHAT IS NOT THAT IT IS NOT, **IS TRUE**

ARISTOTLE, METAPHYSICS

IN THE KNOWLEDGEABLE REALM, THE FORM OF THE GOOD IS THE LAST THING TO BE SEEN... IT IS **THE CAUSE OF ALL THAT IS TRUE AND BEAUTIFUL** IN ANYTHING...

PLATO, PARMENIDES

THE CHIEF FORMS OF BEAUTY ARE **ORDER** AND **SYMMETRY** AND **DEFINITENESS**, WHICH THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES DEMONSTRATE IN A SPECIAL DEGREE

ARISTOTLE, METAPHYSICS

KEY ASSUMPTIONS OF CLASSICAL LEARNING



There is a true design (order) to the world students encounter.



High view of Man: Mankind is uniquely able to recognize the true order of the world, analyze the past, look forward to the future, and strive for noble things.



Educators are guides, not experts.



The purpose of education is to teach students skills that will help them recognize what is good, true, and beautiful, and show them how to reach for nobility.



CORE KNOWLEDGE COMPONENTS

TK-6

Amplify Curriculum/
Core Knowledge
Sequence



7-12

“The Great
Conversation” (Junior
High and High School
Humanities framework)



AHCS-wide

Common language
and skills; unified
expression of
problems or ideas



TRIVIUM

STUDENT LEARNING STAGES

TK-5 GRAMMAR

Learn raw material; the symbols of language/math, memorize (not analyze) important stories and ideas

6-8 LOGIC

Order the raw material of language and math; use logic in thinking processes, practice higher order thinking, expression, analyzing important ideas

9-12 RHETORIC

Take the raw material they've learned in the Grammar Stage and have ordered in the Logic Stages and use it to solve difficult problems, become self-aware, and express their own ideas through speech, papers, or in groups.

LITERACY

Competence/knowledge in a specific area



We teach
CULTURAL LITERACY

Our AHCS core knowledge is the body of ideas and stories that will create a cultural commonality, both for our immediate community and as American citizens.



We teach
LANGUAGE LITERACY

Reading and Writing are fundamental skills for all subject areas, since mastery of the written word - both to receive and communicate - is the mastery of language, and language is the way to access truth and develop societies.



We teach
MATH LITERACY

The ability to understand and utilize mathematical concepts reinforces one's ability to communicate in a coherent and logical manner.

VIRTUE & WISDOM

Forming students' hearts as well as their minds

We teach virtue as a way of living in accordance with what is good.
We mentor students in seeing what is good and appropriately applying it to any given situation.

