



MUELLER CHARTER SCHOOL K-2 LITERACY ACADEMY

FEATURES



A Program Design that Includes:

- Multi-age, ungraded classrooms
- All-English classes with Language Support
- 4 Years to master the 2nd Grade Standards
- 100% at Grade Level prior to 3rd Grade

A Curriculum Emphasis on:

- Reading...Writing... and Math
- Critical and Creative Thinking, Problem Solving
- Balanced with Social Studies, Science and the Arts

Teaching Strategies Focused On:

- Students' Strengths and Talents
- Use of State-of-the-Art Technology
- Authentic Learning, Individually and in Teams

Student Support Services Comprised of:

- A Full time Nurse
- A Full time Counseling Staff
- A Full Time School Psychologist

Student Progress Monitored by:

- Classroom work, projects, writing samples
- Weekly Assessments: OARS, Teacher tests
- Quarterly Assessments: MAPS, Blueprints
- Annual Assessments: CST, Local Measures

Parent Participation Through:

- Weekly Motivation Assemblies
- Family Events: Reading Nights, Book Fairs
- Parent Resources: Enriched Reading Materials
- Parent Trainings: Conferences, Website, Classes

Mueller Charter School K-2 Literacy Academy

Our Children Will Change the World

www.muellercharterschool.org



"The most successful people in this century will be those who can acquire and use knowledge to develop and communicate creative combinations of ideas, applications, and strategies to solve problems."

-- Thomas Friedman, journalist and author



ABOUT THE MUELLER CHARTER SCHOOL K-2 LITERACY ACADEMY

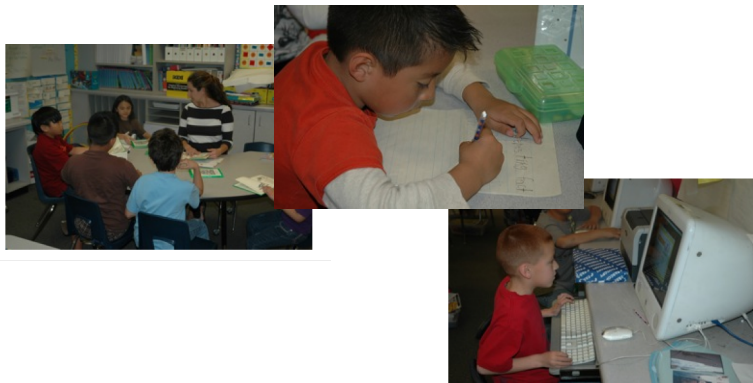


The K-2 LITERACY ACADEMY was created for all primary students at Mueller Charter School to assist them in meeting the challenging academic standards of the State of California. Children in California are expected to be **“Proficient”** or **“Advanced”** in reading on the California Standards Test *before* they are promoted to the next grade. This is especially critical for children entering 3rd grade.

We know that when students move to the next grade before they are ready, they often advance with academic gaps that are never filled. They are always at a disadvantage. They are always trying to catch up as the standards become more rigorous. And they are often left behind. In fact, a 2011 study by the Casey Foundation concluded what we have always known:

“Students who don’t read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers.”

At Mueller Charter School, we are determined that every student enter the 3rd grade **READY TO READ** and **READY TO LEARN!** This will require a school-wide effort, community support, stronger instructional approaches, innovative strategies for organizing our children into classrooms, and for some students, more time to master the reading standards.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the K-2 LITERACY ACADEMY?

The Literacy Academy is an intensive program that integrates instruction, resources, training, technology, and home-school communication to ensure every student is **Proficient** in Reading prior to entering the 3rd grade.

Who is the K-2 LITERACY ACADEMY for?

All primary-aged children from Kindergarten through 2nd grade are automatically enrolled in our Literacy Academy. Regardless of whether they are advanced or struggling readers, the program will be individualized for their learning needs.

What are Multi-Age Classrooms?

All classrooms in the Literacy Academy are **multi-age** except for some Kindergarten options. These are mixed-age classrooms— not traditional single-grade classes—where children are placed according to their academic performance level. There they will have an individually prescribed program to ensure that they master all standards for their age group.

What if my child doesn’t master the 2nd grade standards?

The Literacy Academy will allow students additional time to master the 2nd grade standards. All students entering 3rd grade must be reading at grade level.

So students in the ACADEMY may have to repeat a grade?

Students will be given the time they need to master the standards. For some, this will take three years and for others it may take four. This is not a retention program. They will not repeat work they have already accomplished and will be able to advance to the next set of standards whenever they are ready.

What if my child is an Advanced Reader?

Advanced readers and writers will be further challenged to think critically and creatively, to explore all forms of literature, and to more fully develop their potential in the language arts.

What can parents gain from the LITERACY ACADEMY?

Parents will learn how to help their children read at home, how to monitor their academic growth and how to make more reading materials available to their students.

How will children’s academic progress be measured?

Students in the ACADEMY will be monitored through multiple assessment systems, including MAPS, OARS, CST, Local Measures, daily classroom work, project-based assignments and writing samples..

