

# Public Charter Schools Kindergarten - 12th Grade 2009-2010



ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION



# Arkansas Public Charter Schools

## Open-Enrollment Public Charter Schools

	Grades	Location
<b>Academics Plus Charter School</b>	K-12	Maumelle
<b>Arkansas Virtual Academy</b>	K-8	Statewide
<b>Benton County School of Arts</b>	K-12	Rogers
<b>Covenant Keepers College Preparatory Charter School</b>	6-9	Little Rock
<b>Dreamland Academy of Performing &amp; Communication Arts</b>	K-5	Little Rock
<b>e-STEM Elementary Public Charter School</b>	K-4	Little Rock
<b>e-STEM Middle Public Charter School</b>	5-8	Little Rock
<b>e-STEM High Public Charter School</b>	9-10	Little Rock
<b>Haas Hall Academy</b>	8-12	Fayetteville
<b>Hope Academy Charter School</b>	5-8	Pine Bluff
<b>Imboden Area Charter School</b>	K-8	Imboden
<b>Jacksonville Lighthouse Charter School</b>	K-6	Jacksonville
<b>KIPP Delta College Preparatory School</b>	K-1, 5-12	Helena-West Helena
<b>LISA Academy</b>	6-12	Little Rock
<b>LISA Academy - North</b>	K-9	North Little Rock
<b>Little Rock Preparatory Academy</b>	5	Little Rock
<b>Osceola Communication, Arts, and Business School</b>	7-12	Osceola
<b>School of Excellence</b>	6-10	Humphrey

## District Conversion Public Charter Schools

	Grades	Location
<b>Academic Center for Excellence</b>	1– 10	Osceola
<b>Arthur Bo Felder Learning Academy</b>	6-12	Little Rock
<b>Badger Academy Conversion Charter School</b>	7-12	Beebe
<b>Blytheville Charter School and ALC</b>	7-12	Blytheville
<b>Cabot Academic Center of Excellence</b>	5-12	Cabot
<b>Lincoln Academic Center of Excellence</b>	K-12	Lincoln
<b>Mountain Home High School Career Academies</b>	10-12	Mountain Home
<b>Oak Grove Elementary Health, Wellness, and Environmental Science</b>	K-4	Paragould
<b>Ridgeroad Middle Charter School</b>	7- 8	North Little Rock
<b>Vilonia Academy of Service and Technology</b>	5-6	Vilonia
<b>Vilonia Academy of Technology</b>	2- 4	Vilonia

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## Charter Schools Quick Facts

### What are Charter Schools?

Charter schools are public schools of choice that operate with freedom from many of the regulations that apply to traditional public schools. The Charter establishing each such school is a performance contract detailing the school's mission, program, goals, students served, and methods of assessment. Charters are granted for a period of up to 5 years. At the end of the term, the State Board of Education may renew the school's Charter. Charter schools are accountable to the State Board of Education to produce positive academic results and adhere to the charter authorization. The basic concept of Charter Schools is to exercise increased autonomy in return for accountability. This autonomy is gained by requesting exemptions from Title 6 of the Arkansas Education Code and State Board of Education rules. The Charter Schools are accountable for both academic results and fiscal practices to several groups: the sponsor that grants them, the parents who choose them, and the public that funds them.

### Are there different types of charter schools?

In Arkansas there are two basic types of charter schools: Open Enrollment and Conversion Charter Schools. As of the 2009 school year, there are currently 18 open-enrollment charters and 11 conversion charter schools operating in Arkansas.

### What are Conversion charter schools?

A conversion school is a public school converted to a charter school. Conversion schools can only draw students from within the school district's boundaries.

### What are Open Enrollment charter schools?

An open-enrollment school is a charter school run by a governmental entity, an institution of higher learning or a tax-exempt non-sectarian organization. Open enrollment schools can draw students from across district boundaries.

### Are charter schools held accountable for students performance?

Each charter states the goals for the school. Each school will be monitored and held accountable for meeting all aspects of the charter. In addition, each charter school must participate in all aspects of the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP).

### What if the public charter school isn't working?

The State Board of Education may revoke or modify a school's charter at any time if the public charter school is not meeting the requirements of their charter.

### How do I enroll my child in a Public Charter School?

To enroll your child in a Public Charter School, one should contact the school directly. Please see contact information for Arkansas Public Charter Schools in the following pages.

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# Charter Schools Quick Facts

## How are charter schools funded?

Charter schools receive funds equal to the minimum state revenue per average daily membership. Charter schools are also eligible for one-time implementation grant monies from the State of Arkansas through a Federal Grant as well as grant monies from private foundations or donations. Charters are also eligible to qualify and receive other Federal monies that regular public schools receive such as Title I, Special Education, English as a Second Language (ESL), McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth, and for those that participate, National School Lunch monies for staff development.

## What types of innovation do public charter schools implement?

A recent study of public charter schools found the following similarities in terms of innovation among public charter schools:

- Interdisciplinary Instruction
- Thematic Instruction
- Focus on Mastery of Skills
- Project Based Learning
- Multi-Aged Classrooms
- Shared Vision
- Longer School Days
- Alternative Class Schedules
- Student Portfolios with Individualized Education Plans
- Foreign Language at Early Age
- Student Self Assessment and Peer Assessment
- Strict Discipline Policies
- Increased Parental Involvement
- Low Student/Teacher Ratio
- Increased Emphasis on Citizenship, Ethics and Character Education

## How can charter schools help improve education?

The following reasons are cited as benefits of charter schools:

- Increases opportunities for learning and access to quality education for all students,
  - Provides a system of accountability for results in public education,
  - Encourages innovative teaching practices,
  - Encourages community and parent involvement in public education, and
  - Creates competition among public schools and thus stimulates improvement.
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# Arkansas Open Enrollment Public Charter Schools

## Academics Plus Charter School

900 Edgewood Drive, Maumelle, AR 72113 Ph. (501) 851-3333

**Grades K-12**

[www.academicsplus.org](http://www.academicsplus.org)

APCS, an open enrollment school established in 2001, has been from its beginning, anchored in academic excellence and achievement. APCS provides a rigorous academic program intended to equip students with skills and knowledge necessary for successful transition to college. Each student, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socio-economic status, experiences a world class education equivalent to that found in private schools. We believe that students excel when provided a rich learning environment and challenged by high expectations. Academics plus attitude, behavior, effort, and attendance determine the academic success of the students. ACT scores of APCS students are higher than state and national averages; high performance is also reflected on the Augmented Benchmark Exams. Secondary students are encouraged to enroll in concurrent college courses at no cost to them.

## Arkansas Virtual Academy

10802 Executive Center Drive, Suite 205, Little Rock, AR 72211 Ph. (501) 664-4225

**Grades K-8**

[www.arva.org](http://www.arva.org)

The Arkansas Virtual Academy is an open-enrollment virtual charter school that blends innovative new instructional technology with a traditional curriculum. ARVA offers a unique learning model, a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum based on the Core Knowledge sequence, the flexibility of learning anytime and anywhere, the partnership with qualified professional educators, and an individualized and self-paced learning program. ARVA utilizes curriculum from K12 Inc. developed by leading educational experts. ARVA provides students with an excellent education, grounded in high academic standards, helping them achieve their full academic and social potential. The core philosophy of ARVA is that all young people can achieve academic excellence if they are provided rigorous instruction, high standards, informed guidance, and individual attention.

## Benton County School of Arts

K-8 2005 South 12th Street, Rogers, AR 72758 Ph. (479) 636-2272

9-12 506 West Poplar, Rogers, AR 72756 Ph. (479) 631-2787

**Grades K-12**

[www.bcsa.k12.ar.us](http://www.bcsa.k12.ar.us)

[www.bcsahs.k12.ar.us](http://www.bcsahs.k12.ar.us)

Benton County School of the Arts (BCSA) is a K-12 open enrollment public charter school located on two campuses in Rogers. Students at BCSA are offered rich learning experiences in both academics and the fine arts. As a project-based fine arts school, students are introduced to the visual arts, orchestra, dance, theatre and digital media. Within that framework, the school offers a curriculum that is filled with hands-on learning experiences. Project Based Learning also gives students the opportunity to find solutions to social issues while mastering state standards. Students attending BCSA will have ample opportunities to receive intensive fine arts instruction and match their passion for the arts with a passion for becoming life-long learners. Small student to teacher ratios, outstanding test scores, and a rigorous college preparatory program are highlights of our school.





The mission of Covenant Keepers College Preparatory Charter School is to provide an academically rigorous college preparatory program for all students regardless of race, ethnic origins or socio-economic level. All children can learn when challenged by high expectations. The community we build together at "The Covenant" will help students develop academic skills, intellectual habits, and character traits that will enable them to succeed in high school, college and beyond. We believe that attitude, behavior, effort, and attendance, as well as ability determine academic success.

Covenant Keepers relentlessly focuses on high student performance, standardized tests and other objective measures to ensure that standards for achievement are met. Just as there are no shortcuts, there are no excuses. Students are expected to achieve a level of academic performance that will enable them to succeed. Each parent makes the choice for their child to participate in the program, therefore, parents and students must make the commitment to support, provide time and effort required to achieve success.

Dreamland Academy of Performing and Communication Arts provides elementary students in grades K-5 with a quality educational experience designed to strengthen their reading and language skills. Dreamland staff uses art to open students' learning channels and develop among them high literacy, high reading competence, and self-directed learning skills. Students study the Benchmark standards in English, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, art, music, and dance. Teachers serve as talent agents who develop students' academic and artistic talents and work to expand students' natural artistic and musical talents. We offer hope to parents who need to enroll their children in a responsive, caring, and supportive school environment that also offers academic programming centered on developing students into great speakers, readers, writers, thinkers, and solvers of mathematical problems. Our staff is top notch!

The eStem Elementary Public Charter School provides an intensive curriculum that is driven by students' needs based on current and accurate testing data. This approach ensures that teachers can differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all students. Literacy is based on the Comprehensive Model utilizing reading and writing workshops with an incorporation of word study. This allows an increase in students' receptive and productive vocabulary, reading comprehension, creative writing skills and general knowledge base, thus increasing academic performance in literacy. The math instruction is centered around the Singapore Math curriculum that places a strong focus on number sense, number fluency and mental problem-solving strategies. To further strengthen students' math aptitude, the curriculum also incorporates Calendar Math, Core Math Concepts and other research-driven math instructional strategies. Every student's learning is further developed through the use of specialty classes. These include an inquiry-based science lab, economics through children's literature, Physical Education/Health and the Arts. Students also receive further enrichment and critical thinking skills through learning Greek and Latin roots, with an incorporation of research skills within Social Studies, and an integration of technology, economics and engineering in all core subjects.

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**e-STEM Middle Public Charter School****Grades 5-8**

112 West Third Street, Second Floor, Little Rock, AR 72201 Ph. (501) 552-9040

[www.estemlr.net](http://www.estemlr.net)

The eStem Middle Public Charter School curriculum is a rigorous, college-preparatory course of study focusing on the economics related to the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Additional components of the curriculum include Spanish, physical education, and the arts along with a classical curriculum in language arts and history. The Singapore Math curriculum is used in grades 5 and 6 to emphasize acquisition of mathematical facts and prepare students for higher-level mathematics courses including Algebra I and Geometry in grades 7 and 8. Through the use of an extended day and extended year, students are given sufficient time to explore topics and achieve mastery. Students may also choose to participate in a number of special interest clubs and organizations as well as competitive academic teams including MathCounts, Robotics, and our State Champion Quiz Bowl Team.

**e-STEM High Public Charter School****Grade 9-10**

112 West Third Street, Third Floor, Little Rock, AR 72201 Ph. (501) 552-9080

[www.estemlr.net](http://www.estemlr.net)

The eStem High Public Charter School curriculum includes a rigorous, college-preparatory course of study focusing on the economics related to the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Additional components of the curriculum include technology, engineering theory, rhetoric, foreign languages (Spanish and Mandarin Chinese), and science research. These subjects are interwoven with a classical curriculum in language arts, history, and the arts. Through the use of an extended school day and extended school year, students are given sufficient time to explore topics and achieve mastery. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of Advanced Placement and concurrent credit courses culminating with the completion of a senior project. Students also may choose to join one of our special interest clubs and organizations as well as our competitive academic teams.

**Haas Hall Academy****Grades 8-12**

3155 North College Avenue, Suite 108, Fayetteville, AR 72703 Ph. (479) 966-4930

[www.haashall.org](http://www.haashall.org)

Haas Hall Academy serves the educational needs of scholars with a high intensity of purpose in Northwest Arkansas in grades 8-12. Haas Hall Academy offers an accelerated college preparatory program focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. As a microcosm of a university, scholars at Haas Hall Academy complete an entire calendar year of coursework in one semester. Our smaller class sizes and proven pedagogical techniques create an environment where learning is first and foremost. Our scholars are held to a higher level of expectation, fostered by our breadth and depth of curriculum and a collaborative learning environment. Haas Hall Academy has been recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the finest public high schools in the nation. Haas Hall Academy has a 100% college acceptance rate and our graduates are recruited by many of the finest higher educational institutions in the country.

**Hope Academy Charter School****Grades 5-8**

1021 East Second Street, Pine Bluff, AR 71611 Ph. (870) 540-0900

[www.hopeacademy07.com](http://www.hopeacademy07.com)

Hope Academy is a Public Open-Enrollment Charter School located in Pine Bluff at 1021 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. It serves grades 5-8 with a student teacher ratio of 20:1. Hope Academy students engage in "Prime Time" Activities such as Dance, Art, Gymnastics, Soccer, on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month. Hope Academy implements "Core Knowledge" curriculum which provides students with a solid foundation in the core courses, promotes student self-confidence, increases interaction among teachers allowing them to use cross curriculum methods in teaching, and promotes an environment where every student learns. Strategies employed to aid in learning include, Project-based learning, hands on experience, dramatizations and presentations. The implementation of Core knowledge, Prime Time Activities and Hope Academy's qualified/diverse staff and administration provide the parents of Jefferson County a viable option in quality education for their children.



## **Imboden Area Charter School**

**Grades K-8**

605 West Third Street, Imboden, AR 72434 Ph. (870) 869-3015

[www.imbodencharter.com](http://www.imbodencharter.com)

Imboden is a rural community of about 700 people located in Northeast Arkansas, and the Imboden Area Charter School (IACS) was organized as a nonprofit corporation by community volunteers in an effort to offer a high quality educational program. IACS has been open since 2002, and serves approximately 65 students in grades K-8. The school is focused on meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of its students. Small classroom size allows the teachers to develop a relationship with their students and create a family atmosphere where students thrive. Its individualized learning program allows students to progress at their own pace, unrestricted by age. Gifted students can move forward uninhibited by their peers, while students who may have difficulties are allowed the extra time needed for full understanding of the learning objectives. IACS has experienced a high rate of success, with the average student growth in math and reading scores for one school year being 1½ years.

## **Jacksonville Lighthouse Charter School**

**Grades K-6**

251 North First Street, Jacksonville, AR 72076 Ph. (501) 985-1200 [www.lighthouse-academies.org/jlcs.htm](http://www.lighthouse-academies.org/jlcs.htm)

Jacksonville Lighthouse Charter School (JLCS) is a part of Lighthouse Academies, Inc., a national, nonprofit organization that develops and operates public charter schools in underserved communities throughout the United States. JLCS serves grades K-6. One grade will be added each year until the school includes through grade 12. The mission is to prepare students for college through a rigorous arts-infused program. The vision is that all students will be taught by an outstanding teacher in a nurturing environment and will achieve at high levels. Each student will develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for responsible citizenship and lifelong learning. The impact of our collective efforts will fundamentally change public education.

## **KIPP Delta College Preparatory**

**Grades K-1,5-12**

K-1 210 Cherry Street, Helena-West Helena, AR 72342 Ph. (870) 753-9800

5-8 215 Cherry Street, Helena-West Helena, AR 72342 Ph. (870) 753-9444

9-12 320 Missouri Street, Helena-West Helena, AR 72342 Ph. (870) 338-8138

[www.kippdelta.org](http://www.kippdelta.org)



KIPP Delta College Preparatory School is a member of the national KIPP network of schools that seek to provide students the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, & character necessary for success in college. KIPP Delta began in Helena with its first fifth grade class in 2002. In the 2008-2009 school year, we served approximately 340 students in grades 5-11. Nearly 96% of our students are African-American. KIPP students go to school from 7:30 to 5:00, take classes two Saturdays per month, and for 3 weeks in the summer. They have homework every night and adhere to a strict discipline code. Yet they also have the support of dedicated teachers who will do whatever it takes to ensure their students are on the path to college. AT KIPP, we believe that hard work & high expectations can narrow the achievement gap. Our most recent class of 8<sup>th</sup> graders outscored state averages on the Arkansas Benchmark Exam with 86% scoring Proficient or Advanced in Math and 82% in Literacy.



## **LISA Academy**

**Grades 6-12**

21 Corporate Hill Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205 Ph. (501) 227-4942

[www.lisaacademy.org](http://www.lisaacademy.org)

LISA Academy is a tuition free, public charter school that offers a comprehensive college preparatory program for children in grades six through twelve. Our curriculum focuses on science, mathematics, and technology. LISA Academy is financed by the Arkansas State Department of Education. Our charter status allows our teaching staff more autonomy to pursue innovative approaches to improve student performance as evident in our benchmark scores. The Center for Education Reform honored LISA Academy with the National Charter School of the Year in 2008. This is a prestigious award and is given to charter schools that are “success stories.” LISA Academy strives for all our children to succeed. Our school offers after school Math and English tutoring and provides many after school clubs such as Robotics Club, Math Counts Club and a variety of Quiz Bowl Clubs that competes on a state levels. Our science program has resulted in top awards from CARSF, State Science Fair and Jr. Academy of Science. LISA Academy is a success story. We are a small, safe, structured school dedicated to providing an exceptional education in a culturally diverse environment. We value our students and their families. Our PTSA, Parent, Teacher and student Association, is growing strong and building community relationships. We invite you to visit our school website at [www.lisaacademy.org](http://www.lisaacademy.org) or come for a tour and meet our kind staff.

## **LISA Academy - North**

**Grades K-9**

5410 Landers Road, Sherwood, AR 72117, Ph. (501) 945-2727

[www.lisanorth.org](http://www.lisanorth.org)

LISA Academy - North is a community school offering a comprehensive college preparatory program focusing on science, mathematics, and technology. LISA Academy is strengthening its school model by further developing and codifying its college-preparatory curriculum, fine-tuning its method of grouping students according to their skills, bolstering the professional development available to teachers/administrators, and outlining a consistent parental engagement strategy. LISA assures an array of learning opportunities that are commensurate with abilities of students such as the school-wide enrichment model, special summer and Saturday programs, mentoring, ability grouping, independent study and research projects, and enhancement programs for creativity and thinking skills. It also offers clubs in after school program for free of charge such as Arts and Crafts, Basketball, Soccer, Computer Programming, Chess, MATHCOUNTS, Quiz Bowl, Photography, PTA Reflections, French, Journalism and Music.

## **Little Rock Preparatory Academy**

**Grades 5**

1205 South Schiller Street, Little Rock, AR 72202 Ph. (501) 683-1855

[www.lrprep.org](http://www.lrprep.org)

Little Rock Preparatory Academy prepares middle school students to excel in high school, college, and beyond by providing a high-quality middle school education, ensuring student mastery of the core subjects, and developing the key behaviors required for educational and personal success. Little Rock Preparatory Academy was designed from an intensive study of some of the nation's top-performing urban charter schools through the Building Excellent Schools Fellowship in Boston, MA. All of the school's that LR Prep is modeled after uphold a “no excuses” approach to learning and high expectations for all students. We believe that all students have the ability to achieve academic excellence. We believe that all students deserve a disciplined school environment in which students can learn and teachers can teach. We believe that all students should become masters in reading, writing, and mathematics to be prepared to excel in competitive public and private high schools on their way to selective colleges and universities. To adhere to our mission and beliefs of high expectations for all students, LR Prep students attend school Monday-Thursday 7:25am-5:00pm and Friday, 7:25am-2:30pm. Homework is required every night and all students must adhere to our school wide, highly structured environment and discipline code. Additionally, LR Prep employs masterful teachers who focus on upholding our school's mission that all students will achieve academic and personal success and have an unrelenting focus on closing the achievement gap.



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**Osceola Communication, Arts, and Business School (OCABS)**

1425 Ohlendorf Road, Osceola, AR 72370 Ph. (870) 622-0550

**Grades 7-12**[www.osceolacommunityschool.com](http://www.osceolacommunityschool.com)

The Osceola Communication, Arts and Business School is an innovative, year-round school. Using Malcolm Baldrige Education criteria, we partner with area agencies, businesses and the local community college. We strive to locate and support jobs, internships and youth apprenticeships for our students. We feature a nighttime school called our Twilight School and a daytime Early College high school. Utilizing concurrent and replacement credit classes through Arkansas Northeastern College, our students can take technical courses and STEM classes. Our Twilight School is being developed as a model statewide to reconnect out of school youth. Our students work or attend technical training during the day and attend classes in the evening while receiving extra guidance and encouragement. With the support of our community partners and our families, our school will be a model for preparing students for college, careers and lifelong learning.

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**School of Excellence**

703 North Division, Humphrey, AR 72073 Ph. (870) 873-2008

**Grades 6-10**[www.school-excellence.com](http://www.school-excellence.com)

The School of Excellence is a Smart Core, highly academic educational system with emphasis on foreign language and global economics. Spanish and Mandarin Chinese are the two main languages that are taught, but other languages will be taught as well. The Smart Core curriculum will be followed which will produce academically qualified college bound students. The School of Excellence utilizes the most up-to-date technology of every type in all classes. The small class size helps ensure that no child will be left behind. Through the collaboration and dedication of teachers, parents and students much progress is made toward proficiency in all subjects. Our students will receive a well-rounded education that will shoot them into the twenty-first century as progressive and productive citizens.





# Arkansas District Conversion Public Charter Schools

## Academic Center of Excellence

**Grades 1-10**

112 N. School St., Osceola, AR 72370 Ph. (870) 563-2150

[www.osceola.k12.ar.us/Oacecs.cfm](http://www.osceola.k12.ar.us/Oacecs.cfm)

Our mission is to develop learners who are competent, confident, productive, and responsible students who will possess the life skills, work habits, knowledge base and attitude to succeed in high school, in college and in the global work force. The emphasis is on math and science, writing and research as well as pre-advanced placement courses. The goal of the Academic Center of Excellence is to provide various learning methods with opportunities for all students to experience different and innovative teaching methods. This can be accomplished particularly when those methods can clarify and expand challenging subject material. The ACE will also provide parents and students with expanded choices in educational opportunities available within the public school system of Osceola, hold the school established under this charter responsible for meeting measurable learner outcomes, and provide the school with a method to change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.

## Arthur Bo Felder Learning Academy

**Grades 6-12**

6900 Pecan Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72206 Ph. (501) 447-4200

[www.lrsd.org](http://www.lrsd.org)

Arthur 'Bo' Felder Learning Academy is a conversion charter alternative school in the Little Rock School District. Serving grades 6-12, the Academy uses a militarily structured program designed to modify a student's behavior and provide opportunities for academic success. The framework and methodology provides constructive, disciplined standards that lead to self-discipline, respect for authority, and good citizenship. A dress code is required. Refusal to accept the guidelines for enrollment may result in a student being denied admittance into the Academy. Students are accepted directly from the Little Rock and North Little Rock School Districts. Students from other school districts must enroll in the Little Rock School District to be admitted. Within the military framework is a unique, creative curriculum that includes English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, and Business Education, which includes electives that provide a career focus. Class sizes are limited in order to meet individual needs of students.

## Badger Academy Conversion Charter School

**Grades 7-12**

1201 W. Center St., Beebe, AR 72012 Ph. (501) 882-8413

[badger.k12.ar.us](http://badger.k12.ar.us)

Badger Academy seeks to eliminate traditional barriers to student learning. Enrollment is available to Beebe Public School students in grades seven through twelve. Certified personnel assist students in meeting specified requirements in the core subject areas. The primary goal of Badger Academy is to help students acquire the emotional, social, and academic skills necessary to be successful students and productive members of the community. Counseling services, as well as other support services, are also available to students enrolled in Badger Academy. Badger Academy also offers adults a Second Chance to gain a quality education. The Second Chance Program is designed to give former high school students between the ages of eighteen to twenty-one an opportunity to earn a diploma. Staff members facilitate and assist learners in their quest in becoming High School Graduates. Students must meet graduation requirements based upon their program of study prior to their drop date. Upon program completion, students will be given a High School Diploma! Graduation Ceremonies are conducted after both spring and fall semesters.



## **Blytheville Charter School and ALC**

415 Tennessee St., Blytheville, AR 72315 Ph. (870) 763-7191

**Grades 7-12**

[www.bps.k12.ar.us](http://www.bps.k12.ar.us)

Blytheville Charter School & ALC is a charter school with a focus on alternative students. Alternative students are those students who have social, academic, and/or behavior issues in a traditional school environment. Along with academics we provide job training in areas such as Food Production and Medical Professions and the opportunity to get a state license as a certified nurses' assistant. We work with the community to try to locate jobs for as many of our students as possible.

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## **Cabot Academic Center of Excellence**

1 City Plaza Suite C, Cabot, AR 72023 Ph. (501) 743-3520

**Grades 7-12**

[cabot.k12.ar.us/schools/ACE/ACE.html](http://cabot.k12.ar.us/schools/ACE/ACE.html)

Academic Center of Excellence (ACE) is a learning community committed to quality learning where students of all abilities and interests can find a nurturing environment. ACE mixes the intimacy of a one-room schoolhouse with 21<sup>st</sup> century technology. This conversion charter school is starting its 5<sup>th</sup> year serving students in the Cabot Public School District. In 2007, ACE received a "National Charter School of the Year" distinction from the Center of Education Reform. ACE is a virtual school that provides new opportunities and alternatives to the traditional academic approach. Students may enroll in the essential core classes along with electives needed to graduate. ACE students participate in graduation with Cabot High School. All students enrolled in ACE are assigned an advisor to ensure their success. The advisor's role includes monitoring advisees' overall academic performance, counseling the student, and serving as the primary liaison between parents and the school.

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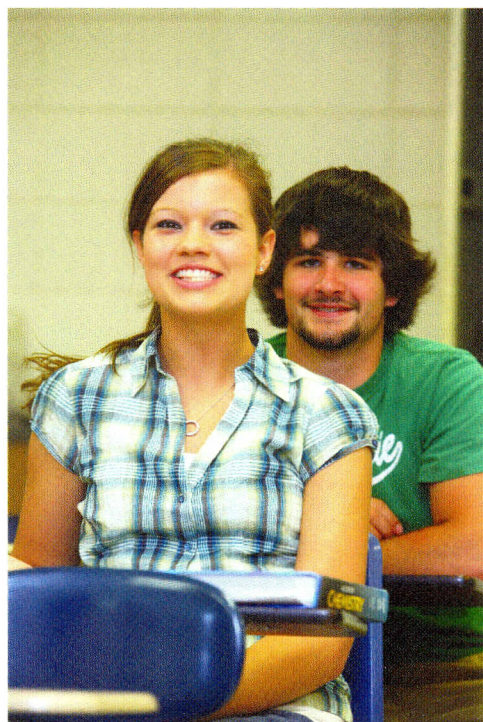
## **Lincoln Academic Center of Excellence**

611 E.P. Rothrock Drive, Lincoln, AR 72744 Ph. (479) 824-3010

**Grades K-12**

[wolfpride.k12.ar.us](http://wolfpride.k12.ar.us)

Lincoln Academic Center of Excellence (ACE) is a non-traditional school where students earn credit through mastery learning and project-based learning. Innovative instructional strategies and flexible schedules combine to create a different, engaging, and rigorous learning environment. The environment is technology rich and creativity is integrated into the curriculum. Access to concurrent credit and AP courses is available to students. ACE has a small school feeling and the staff focuses on student learning and providing the extra help students need. ACE is a non-traditional school where students earn credit through mastery learning and project-based learning. Innovative instructional strategies and flexible schedules combine to create a different, engaging, and rigorous learning environment. The environment is technology rich encouraging creativity in students. Concurrent credit, AP courses, and other electives are available. ACE has a small school feeling and the staff focus on student learning and providing the extra help needed for successful students. As an alternative to the traditional school, Lincoln ACE provides all students with opportunities for anytime, anywhere learning. The school is an innovative, creative, and state of the art school focused on customizing the learning for students and families.





**Mountain Home High School Career Academies****Grades 10-12**

500 Bomber Blvd., Mountain Home, AR 72653 Ph. (870) 425-1215

bombers.k12.ar.us

Established in 2003, MHHS Career Academies house three career academies with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade housed on a separate campus. This Wall-to-Wall Career Academy model with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade transition serves all students, approximately 300 per grade level.

The three academies are ACME – Architecture, Construction, Manufacturing, Engineering; CAB Communications, Arts, Business; HHS Health Science Human Services. MHHS Career Academies have been recognized by the National Career Academy Coalition as Model and nationally certified academies and by the Ford Foundation at the Leadership Level in a Rural Setting. Each academy has its own business advisory and a volunteer support of over 110 business partners.

**The Academies**

- Provide small learning communities for student advisement and curriculum integration,
- Provide impetus for raising student achievement,
- Provide for academic teaming, interdisciplinary applications, and community involvement,
- Provide students with a 6 year secondary and post secondary plan,
- Enhance State Frameworks,
- Enhance extracurricular activities, and
- Enhance Cross Academy Opportunities, AP and Dual Credit, etc.

**Oak Grove Elementary Health Wellness and Environmental Sciences****Grades K-4**

5027 Highway 135 North, Paragould, AR 72450 Ph. (870) 586-0439

oge.k12.ar.us

Oak Grove Elementary offers students enrichment in the areas of science, health and physical fitness. The scientific atmosphere embraced by faculty and staff encourages the use of creative and critical thinking skills. Our science lab allows students to develop their own ideas and conclusions through experimentation. Our health lab allows children to prepare healthy meals while learning about nutrition and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Our cardio room is equipped with game bike technology allowing students to participate in video games while exercising. Our focus on fitness and health includes classroom instruction on body systems, diseases, nutrition, and much more. Students are also given the opportunity to participate in sport programs such as speed and agility, softball, golf, baseball, soccer, croquet, football, bocce, curling, archery and basketball during the school day. After school activities include swimming, gymnastics, cheerleading, and a variety of science clubs.

**Ridgeroad Middle Charter School****Grades 7-8**

4601 Ridge Rd., North Little Rock, AR 72116 Ph. (501) 771-8155

www.nlrsl.k12.ar.us

Ridgeroad Middle Charter School is a conversion charter school that is designed to maximize academic achievement for EVERY student.

Ridgeroad offers educational opportunities in an atmosphere of mutual respect between students and teachers. The daily school schedule begins at 7:45 AM with the four core academic areas. The day ends at 4:30 PM with students rotating through 3 elective classes. Exploratory periods are included in the morning and educate students in the areas of Art & Music Appreciation, Keyboarding & Technology, Career Orientation, and Physical Education & Health.

Ridgeroad ensures student/teacher relationships through teaming and looping. Each team includes a Language Arts teacher, a Math teacher, a Social Studies teacher, a Science teacher, and 2 Special Education teachers. Advanced Placement courses are offered in each core academic area.

Ridgeroad classes are full inclusion and maintain the philosophy that EVERY student can learn.



## **Vilonia Academy of Service and Technology**

49 Eagle St., Vilonia, AR 72173 Ph. (501) 796-2940

**Grades 5-6**

[vilonia.k12.ar.us](http://vilonia.k12.ar.us)

The Vilonia Academy of Service-Learning and Technology is located in the Vilonia School District. The curriculum is rich in service-learning and technology. The focus of the curriculum is to prepare students academically, while instilling a rebirth of citizenship. Students develop life skills as they apply what they learn to solve problems within their school and community. Classroom instruction incorporates various technologies and serves as a major component to guide the curriculum. It is the goal of the Academy to provide an engaging learning environment through technology and service while promoting excellence in education.

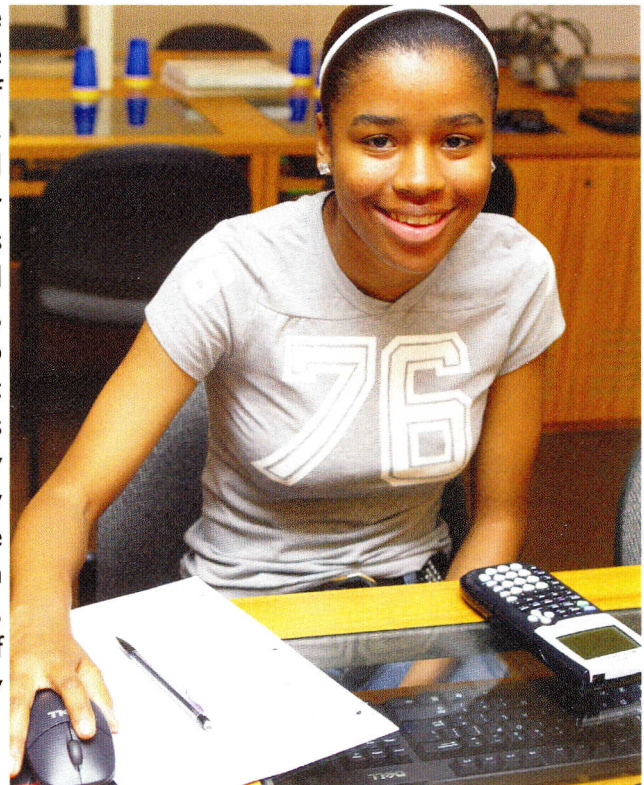
## **Vilonia Academy of Technology**

4 Bane Lane, Conway, AR 72032 Ph. (501) 796-2018

**Grades 2-4**

[vilonia.k12.ar.us](http://vilonia.k12.ar.us)

The Vilonia Academy of Technology is a very unique charter school. Located on the western end of the Vilonia School District, the Vilonia Academy of Technology is housed within Vilonia Primary School. We are a school within a school! Our charter school provides a technology-enriched environment for student learning. Classroom instruction includes interaction with a wide variety of advanced technologies: SMART Boards, ELMO visual presenters, Gateway Notebooks, iPods, digital cameras and video cameras, just to name a few. Then there's software: Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, PhotoStory3, Windows Movie Maker and most recently, Gaggie. This visionary program of study is constantly researching new technologies that could assist in our effort to increase student performance. Students eagerly engage in challenging projects that require them to research, formulate, create and present across all areas of curriculum. The Vilonia Academy of Technology is truly a great place to learn!







# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arkansas Department of Education

Charter School Office

Four Capitol Mall, Room 105-C

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Phone: (501) 683-5313

Fax: (501) 371-3514

[http://arkansased.org/schools/schools\\_charter.html](http://arkansased.org/schools/schools_charter.html)

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