

MEAD
ELEMENTARY
CHARTER SCHOOL



**Building Tomorrow's
Success Stories
Today**

Every Child. Every Family. Every Day.

What is a Charter School?



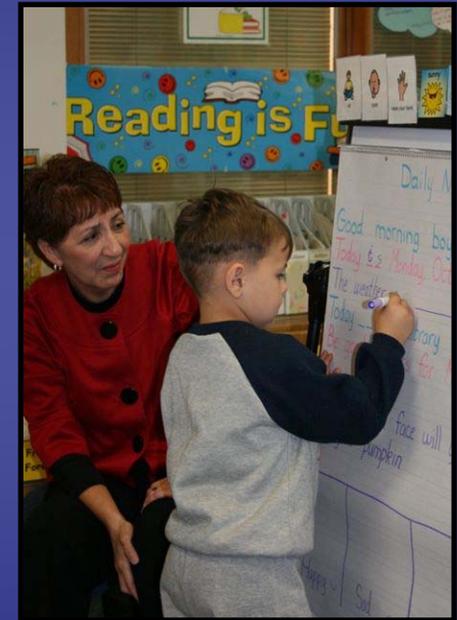
A Charter School is a public school in the US that receives public money, but has been freed from some of the rules, regulations, and statutes that apply to other public schools in exchange for some type of accountability for producing results which are set forth in their individual charter. This autonomy allows for a creative design that meets the needs of the individual school.

Mead is an “Instrumentality Charter School,” which means we have been authorized by the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District.

Mead Elementary Charter School

Fast Facts

- 450 Students - Grades Pre-K through 6
- 64% qualify for free and reduced lunch
- 76 Staff - 50 Certified
- Club Mead - Before & After School Program
Over 400 participants with 114 regular attendees
- 2008 - Recipient of 4 competitive Grants
\$297,000 for Educational Grants,
Plus a “Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant”



Why Did Mead Choose to Become a Charter School?



The staff at Mead desired to create a school based on students' strengths rather than their challenges; in essence, becoming a school with a focus on success. At Mead we had always been innovative, but creating a charter school provided the autonomy and flexibility to meet our goals.

This was a grassroots effort involving staff, community members, and parents to create a unique school to prepare students now and for their future in the 21st century.



Mead Elementary Charter School is an innovative and collaborative learning environment. We work together with families and our community to offer differentiated learning structures that will fully engage our students by providing a meaningful and challenging academic component, integrated with a motivating and empowering life vision component. We inspire our students to take ownership in their education by applying their social and academic knowledge to serve the larger community.

Our Core Beliefs

- **We believe it is essential for students, staff, parents and community to work together.**
- **We believe in meeting individual needs of all students.**
- **We believe all students have the right to learn and the potential to succeed now and in the future.**
- **We believe students learn when they are in a safe, supportive environment.**
- **We believe students learn best when engaged in purposeful work, guided by high expectations.**

How Has Mead Charter School Been Designed?

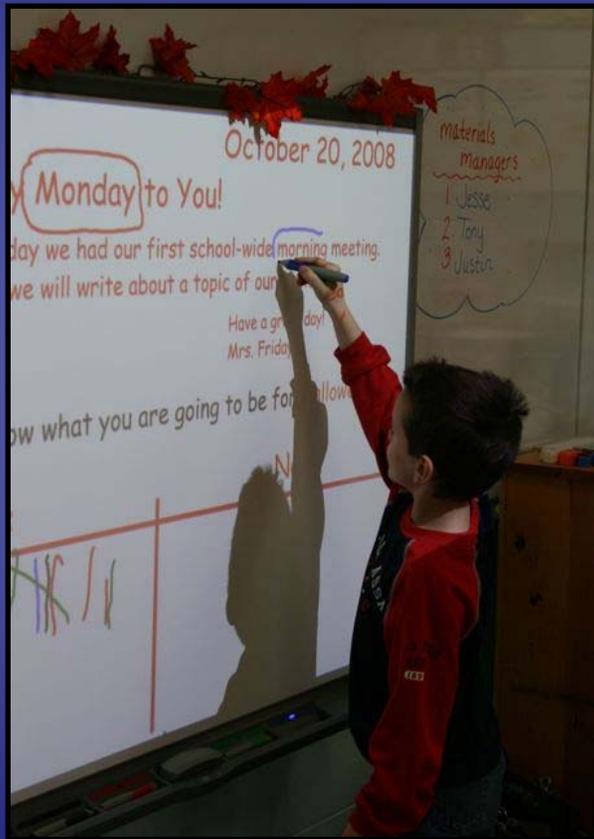


Mead Elementary Charter School is Built on Four Pillars of Success:



- Differentiation
- Service-learning
- Goal-Directed
- Asset-Building

What is “Differentiation?”



Differentiation means teaching differently for each learner. Students come to us at all different levels in their learning journey, so we identify where they are and design instruction to take them as far as they can go.

Differentiation Strategies Include:

- A daily workshop time designed to provide intervention and enrichment in language arts.
- Math instruction that is tiered in order to give every learner the challenge or support they need to meet their learning goals.
- Technology rich classrooms that provide high levels of engagement and motivation.

*In Essence, Our Focus is on Learning
Rather than on Teaching.*

What is “Service-Learning?”



Service-learning is a teaching and learning approach that integrates genuine community service with academic study.

Service learning:

- Deepens students' connection with learning
- Extends learning beyond the classroom
- Fosters active participation
- Allows students to take ownership of learning
- Fosters a sense of caring for others
- Helps students realize they are valued members of the community

In Essence, We Want our Kids To Know They Have The Ability To Change the World.

What is “Goal-Directed?”



This pillar is focused on developing life-long learners. This is done in two ways:

Setting current goals:

- Teachers determine learning essentials for key areas
- Weekly teacher collaboration fosters shared expertise to reach goals.

Setting life-long goals:

- Students start each year by writing their Hopes and Dreams
- Students regularly reflect on their goals and how they are necessary for future success
- Students are immersed in exploration of the many options for their futures

*In Essence, The Future is Theirs
and the Sky is the Limit.*

What is “Asset-Building?”



Asset-building focuses on the building blocks of development that help children grow up healthy, caring and responsible. A key to this pillar is forming positive relationships and making wise choices.

The purposeful design of our learning environment fosters the building of assets through:

- The Responsive Classroom approach to social and academic learning
- Our Club Mead Before and After School Programs
- Family and community partnerships

In Essence, Social Learning Is Just as Important as Academic Learning.



Success!

“I think that Reader’s Workshop helped me a lot by getting me to understand more about books and what we can learn.”

4th Grader

“My child has always been a good reader, but he seems to be taking more interest in reading now more than ever.”

4th Grade Parent

“I feel good about reading because it’s like TV in your head!”

4th Grader

What Will it Take to Succeed?

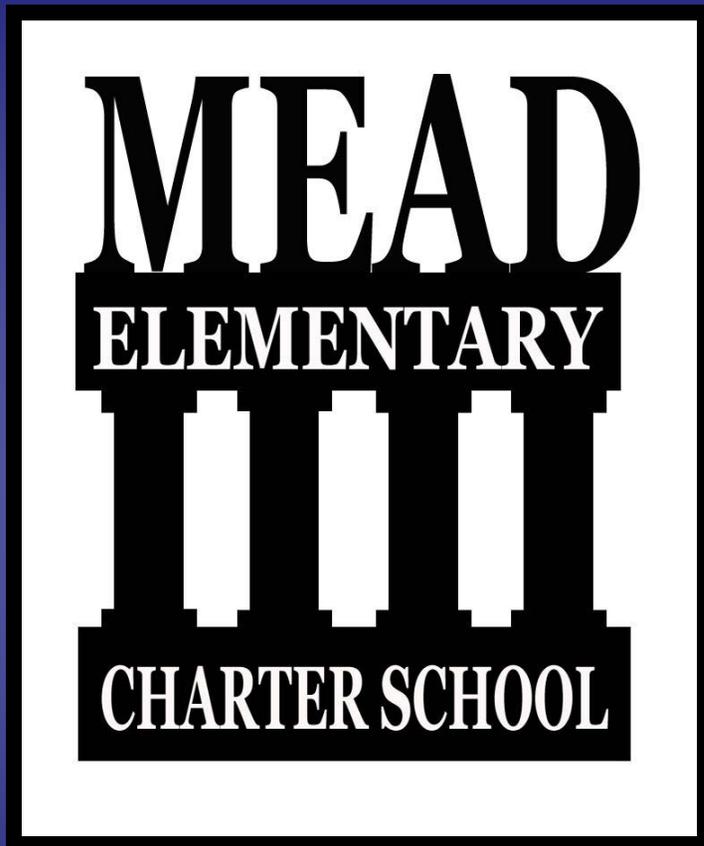
Strategic Partnerships::

Students, Parents, Staff and Community



Mead Elementary Charter School Governing Council





**Building Tomorrow's
Success Stories
Today**

Every Child. Every Family. Every Day.