



MIDDLE SCHOOL - WYANDANCH  
**the ACADEMY**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## MIDDLE SCHOOL 6TH - 8TH GRADE

The Academy Charter School designed a middle school curriculum that sparks students' curiosity, builds confidence, and helps them fall in love with learning through reading and writing, solving complex real-world math problems, engaging in scientific investigations, and applying humanities concepts and knowledge to community and civic readiness projects. Science, humanities, financial literacy, and STEM programs enrich reading comprehension and writing. The instructional framework aligns with a gradual release model. Classroom activities promote socio-emotional and interpersonal structures through collaborative routines and activities that encourage discourse and foster cognitive engagement.

Teachers and students have access to high-quality, standards-aligned curricular materials that facilitate 21st-century learning experiences. The following programs support teaching and learning:

- SAVVAS Envision - Mathematics - Math instruction
- SAVVAS Elevate - Science
- SAVVAS My Perspectives - Writing and ELA
- SAVVAS My World History - Humanities:

**STEM:** Our K-8 STEM program is designed to cultivate curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Grounded in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), it immerses students in science and engineering practices, fostering confidence and creativity through inquiry-based learning and real-world application.

Students build a strong foundation in scientific concepts and skills through increasing rigor and hands-on projects each year. The program prepares them for our high school CTE/STEM pathway, equipping them with career-ready skills and a passion for innovation.

Our curriculum is regularly updated to align with the latest STEM education standards at state, federal, and international levels.

## PERFORMING ARTS

Our program nurtures creativity and skill development through music, visual arts, and theatre.

**Band:** Focuses on instrumental techniques with woodwinds, brass, and percussion. Performances include winter/spring concerts and community events.

**Visual Arts:** Explores mixed media, digital art, and sculpture with an emphasis on creativity and technique.

**Theatre (Extracurricular):** Offers acting, set design, and stage crew roles in annual productions.

## ATHLETICS

The Athletics Department at The Academy Charter School proudly leads the way as the first charter school in Nassau and Suffolk County to gain membership in the prestigious New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA). This recognition reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence in sports and the development of our student-athletes.

Starting in the third grade, our intramural athletics program introduces students to competitive sports, fostering teamwork, skill-building, and a love for physical activity. This foundational program is designed to prepare students for more advanced competitive play as they transition into our middle school athletics program beginning in 7th grade.

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With state-of-the-art facilities, a passionate and professional coaching staff, and a supportive environment, we ensure our young athletes are equipped for success both on and off the field. As members of both Section VIII and Section XI, the Academy Charter School Athletics Department continues to set a high standard for charter school athletics across New York State.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

**Counseling Department:** The Middle School Counseling Department plays a crucial role in supporting students as they navigate their educational and personal development during these formative years. Our dedicated team of counselors is committed to fostering academic achievement, social skills, and emotional well-being. We focus on empowering students to overcome challenges, make informed decisions, and thrive throughout their middle school journey. Our department emphasizes Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) as a key component of our programming. We have implemented the Overcoming Obstacles curriculum, which addresses the needs of all students in grades six through eight. Our counselors work collaboratively with teachers, parents, and the community to ensure effective communication and readily accessible support.

Additionally, the Middle School Counseling Department recognizes the importance of holistic support. We utilize social workers to provide services that address both the academic and behavioral needs of our students, while also connecting families to community resources. Through workshops and training sessions, we empower parents with insights into child development, social-emotional issues, and the challenges their children face. Overall, our Middle School Counseling Department is dedicated to nurturing a positive and supportive environment that encourages students to reach their full potential both academically and personally.

**ENL/ELL Program:** The Academy's ENL/ELL program consists of both the stand-alone for language and push-in models with the primary goal of language acquisition related to reading, speaking, listening, and writing domains. NYS certified teachers provide group intervention services for ELLs depending on their NYSESLAT or NYSITELL proficiency levels with the goal of the students commanding the English language which is shown by a passing score on the NYSESLAT or English Regents assessments.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students who have been evaluated by their home district and identified as a student with a disability will receive an INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN (IEP) from the district. All IEPs MUST BE presented to the school and screened by the Director of Student Support Services PRIOR to acceptance to determine if the services recommended on the student's IEP can be provided at the Academy.

Related service providers are hired consultants provided through the student's home district. They are expected to work under the supervision of the Director of Student Services and are expected to provide high quality instruction/services through effective best practices such as teacher collaboration, teacher articulation and progress monitoring. In our inclusion classes, there are two teachers (a general education and a special education teacher) who collaborate regularly to provide effective high quality through the implementation of effective best instructional practices.

**The Academy Elementary School - Wyandanch: Grades 3-5**  
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**Mr. Quinton Dupree, Principal**



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