



## CHESAPEAKE ACADEMY

### PROFILE 2011-2012

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#### Mission:

Chesapeake Academy is an independent, co-educational day school serving a diverse population of Pre-K 3 & 4 through Eighth Grade students in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula of Virginia. The school prepares each student for future academic, ethical, social, and physical endeavors in an intellectually challenging environment with a curriculum grounded in a nurturing, family-oriented atmosphere.

#### Philosophy:

Located in historic Irvington, Virginia, where the Rappahannock River meets the Chesapeake Bay, Chesapeake Academy is a school dedicated to preparing each student for future academic, ethical, social, and physical endeavors in an intellectually challenging environment.

Bound by common goals and aspirations, Chesapeake Academy students experience an academically challenging, traditional liberal arts curriculum taught by teachers who model creativity, commitment, flexibility, teamwork and a love of learning. Intellectual curiosity is valued, laying the foundation for a lifetime of learning, growth and achievement. Our caring and supportive environment guides children to develop confidence in their abilities. In all aspects of school life, teachers know their students well. This relationship allows teachers to address differences in learning styles and teach in ways children will experience their greatest achievement.

In keeping with our heritage, Chesapeake Academy students are an interconnected community of learners. Our school, guided by a purposeful social and ethical curriculum, is a place where friendships and consideration for others thrive and responsibility and leadership develop. We embrace each other's beliefs and differences and discover that our diversity enriches us. The school's community, formed by a unique partnership of parents, students, teachers, alumni and neighbors, works together to help children achieve academic excellence and personal growth. We believe students learn best when teachers, parents and children work in harmony.

From Pre-K 3 & 4 through Eighth Grade, Chesapeake Academy students develop and articulate ideas. The inclusion of visual and performing arts in the curriculum encourages self-discovery and creative expression. The physical education and athletic programs promote life-long personal fitness and character development. School-wide experiences and community service opportunities

encourage students to be comfortable expressing their ideas in front of others as well as assuming future leadership roles.

Chesapeake Academy believes that an enriched and challenging academic curriculum, within a nurturing, child-centered environment, provides the foundation for future successes.

#### Differentiated Instruction:

Differentiated Instruction is a form of instruction that seeks to maximize each student's growth by recognizing that students have different ways of learning, different interests, and different ways of responding to instruction. Educators vary learning activities and materials by difficulty, by topic, and by students' preferred ways of learning or expressing themselves.

Specifically, differentiated instruction teaches:

- how to recognize and plan for student differences in readiness, interest, and the way a child learns best.
- how to create and support a student-centered learning environment.
- how to focus instruction around the most essential concepts, principles, and skills of a subject.
- how to modify the content taught, the processes students use to learn the content, and the products students produce to demonstrate what they have learned, to maximize all student growth.
- how to use a variety of assessment techniques as diagnosis of student understanding to make adjustments in learning experiences.
- how to manage a differentiated classroom by flexible use of time, materials and groupings.
- instructional strategies that support a differentiated classroom such as centers, learning contracts, group investigation, tiered activities, instruction, etc.

#### Accreditation:

Chesapeake Academy is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools, and is, also, a member of the Educational Records Bureau. The State Department of Social Services certifies Pre-K 3 & 4, and licenses the Extended Day Program.

#### Admissions:

Students whose assessments, interview, prior academic record and recommendations indicate that they can succeed within the framework and curriculum of Chesapeake Academy are admitted. The Academy seeks to enroll students who are: Committed to learning and being a part of a community dedicated to honesty, respect, citizenship, and integrity. Eager to meet new people. Of strong moral character. Well rounded, with varied interests and talents. Excited about becoming part of a close-knit community. Developing themselves to the fullest through academic challenge, athletics

competition, and artistic exploration. Chesapeake Academy does not discriminate in admission or financial assistance on the basis of race, gender, physical challenges, religious affiliation, ethnic background, or country of origin.

#### Enrollment:

107 students in Pre-K 3 & 4 through Eighth Grade. Average class size is 10 students. Student to Teacher ratio is 6:1. Chesapeake Academy is an independent, co-educational day school, in Irvington, serving the following counties, in Virginia: Lancaster, Northumberland, Middlesex, Mathews, and Gloucester.

#### Faculty and Staff:

23 full and part-time faculty and staff members carry out instructional, operational, and administrative responsibilities. Teaching faculty are all college graduates, and seven have Advanced Degrees.

#### Curriculum:

Designed for a student's success in a college preparatory secondary school program, the core curriculum includes reading, English, spelling, math, science and social studies. Co-curricular courses and opportunities include: art, music, library, technology, study skills, Latin, Spanish, overnight field studies, physical education, and interscholastic sports. High School credit is available in Algebra I and Spanish I in Eighth Grade.

#### Grading Scale:

**A+** (97-100), **A** (93-96), **A-** (90-92), **B+** (87-89), **B** (83-86), **B-** (80-82), **C+** (77-79), **C** (73-76), **C-** (70-72), **D+** (67-69), **D** (63-66), **D-** (60-62), **F** (<60)

#### Sampling of Extra Curricular Opportunities/Selected Features:

- Grades Five through Eight participate in Inward Bound, an overnight excursion to an area camp for team building and leadership
- Grades Seven and Eight have a week-long comparative ecosystem field trip study in Florida (Seacamp) every other year, alternating with a community service trip in the spring to various locations around the east coast.
- Middle School students participate in the Independent School Athletic Conference (ISAC) and compete in soccer, volleyball, golf, basketball, tennis, track & field and cross country.
- Early Childhood Enrichment Series events (PALS – Performing Arts & Lecture Series)
- Community Service Projects (entire school)
- Drama/Musical performances, Osprey Chorus, Tone Chime Choir, and Private instrumental/vocal music lessons
- Student Council
- Summer Programs are available for ages 4-14

## Tuition and Scholarship Assistance:

For the 2011-2012 school year tuition and fees are

- Pre-Kindergarten \$5,590.00
- Kindergarten \$9,425.00
- Lower School \$9,425.00
- Middle School \$9,960.00

Extended Day fees are based on usage. Thirty-nine percent of the students receive financial assistance.

## Facilities:

The nine and one half acre campus, in Irvington, consists of the following seven buildings: Chesapeake Hall, a 13,800 square foot building housing classrooms for Grades One through Eight, a science lab, technology lab, library, Instructional Support, and all administrative offices; the Nettie L. Wiley Early Childhood Center for Pre-K 3 & 4 and Kindergarten; gymnasium with an adjacent art studio; Academy Hall provides a dining hall, flexible teaching space and a meeting area for parents and community groups; the Cottage, home of the Osprey Nest (school store); and The Residence, in which the Head of School resides, and includes the Henry Selby nature trail.

## Secondary Schools Attended by Chesapeake Academy Graduates (since 1989):

### *Independent:*

- Baylor (1)
- Choate Rosemary Hall School (1)
- Christchurch School (131)
- Episcopal High School (6)
- The Madeira School (1)
- Oldfields School (1)
- The Peddie School (1)
- The Phelps School (1)
- Randolph-Macon Academy (1)
- St. Andrews School (2)
- St. Catherine's School (2)
- St. Margaret's School (26)
- St. Mary's School (1)
- Tandem Friends (1)

- Virginia Episcopal School (3)
- Woodberry Forest School (17)
- Woodhall Academy (1)

*Public:*

- Lancaster High School, Northumberland High School, and other public schools

CAPPA:

Chesapeake Academy Parents and Patrons Association (CAPPA) fosters communication among parents and patrons, facilitates volunteerism, and promotes the mission of the Academy.

Alumni Association:

Chesapeake Academy's Alumni Association fosters community among alumni, facilitates volunteerism and communication, and promotes the mission of the Academy.

Board of Trustees/Foundation Board:

16 members of the Board serve three-year rotating terms. The 4 ex-officio members include: the Head of School, Foundation President, CAPPA President, and Alumni Association President. The seven Foundation Board members serve three-year rotating terms and develop strategies to increase the endowment fund and focus on planned giving (The Faye Society). The ex-officio members include: the Head of School and the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Annual Budget/Annual Fund/Endowment:

Annual Budget of \$1,145,438 for fiscal year 2011-2012 (July 1-June 30). CA raised \$150,400 for the 2010-2011 Annual Fund. Total Annual Giving for 2010-2011 was \$270,793. The \$793,316 Endowment is managed by the Chesapeake Academy Foundation.