

## **BASIC INFORMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

- PARENTS - PLEASE RETAIN FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS -

### **Introduction**

Loveland Classical Schools is committed to excellence and fairness in public education. As a charter school of the Thompson School District, Loveland Classical Schools operates under a charter contract between its Board of Directors and the District. The charter contract is the legal document under which Loveland Classical Schools and its Board of Directors are held accountable to parents and the community. Loveland Classical Schools is supported by public taxes and the generous contributions of those who support the principles and ideals outlined in the school's charter application. Loveland Classical Schools is governed by a Board of Directors. All parents, regardless of economic status, are free to choose this educational program for their children.

### **School Mission and Philosophy**

Loveland Classical Schools assists parents in developing young minds with virtuous character, critical thinking skills, and a passion for learning to become exceptional community stewards. Loveland Classical Schools will provide an environment that fosters academic excellence, the habit of thoroughness, the willingness to work, and the perseverance to complete difficult tasks. Through a defined traditional, classical-liberal curriculum, students will be prepared to become active, responsible members of their community. Loveland Classical Schools recognizes the value of inclusiveness, or providing access to a broad cross-section of the community, so that students from all backgrounds can benefit from Loveland Classical Schools' educational offerings. LCS acknowledges the leadership of teachers in the classroom and the responsibility of each student for his or her academic effort.

### **Educational Program and Curriculum**

Curriculum LCS uses the Core Knowledge Sequence developed by E.D. Hirsch and the Core Knowledge Foundation. The sequence is structured for Kindergarten through 8th grade yet lays the foundation for life-long learning and creativity. The high school program builds upon this knowledge base. The curriculum assures that all students will have a fair and equal opportunity to acquire background knowledge necessary for cumulative learning. The curriculum will meet or exceed State and Thompson School District model content standards.

Teaching Thinking Loveland Classical Schools has embraced a classical model of education as distinct from modern, progressive education.

Values of a Democratic Society To thrive in work, citizenship, and personal growth, children must be taught the values of a democratic society. At Loveland Classical Schools, such values - generosity, honesty, responsibility, service, perseverance, loyalty, forgiveness, integrity, courage, humility, prudence, temperance - will be identified and clearly taught. Administrators and faculty will encourage and promote these traits, and students will be given opportunities to practice and develop them.

### **Special Topics**

In addition to the key concepts outlined in the charter application and contract, parents enrolling their children at Loveland Classical Schools are expected to read the *Loveland Classical Schools Handbook* to become familiar with the schools' policies regarding volunteering, safety, attendance, punctuality, dress code, homework, discipline, and more.

Parental Involvement and Volunteering To assist Loveland Classical Schools in meeting its goal of community volunteer involvement equal to 50% of the budgeted teaching hours for grades K-6 and 10% of the budgeted teaching hours for grades 7-12, on-site parental volunteer assistance is encouraged and facilitated. To achieve Loveland Classical Schools' goal, each family is encouraged, although not required, to volunteer *4 hours per month per student* for each K-6 student enrolled, and *1 hour per month per student* for each student enrolled in grades 7-12. Volunteers must complete a volunteer application information form and comply with all guidelines and rules for volunteering as outlined in the charter contract and the *Loveland Classical Schools Handbook*.

Safety The safety of students is a primary concern of LCS. The most common and frequent threat to safety is the heavy automobile traffic during student drop-off and pick-up times. We must drive safely and slowly and only drop students in designated areas. To be courteous to others, pull forward as much as possible, allowing for the maximum number of students to exit/enter vehicles. It is vital for the students' safety that all parents abide by the

traffic policies set forth in the *Loveland Classical Schools Handbook* and in periodic communications from the school. It is necessary for everyone to follow the instructions and directions of school staff and volunteers who are directing traffic. Failure to do so not only compromises the safety of the students, but also undermines in a direct and visible way the values we are teaching to the children, including integrity and responsibility. Parents must set the example of obedience to the rules.

Attendance Loveland Classical Schools' goal is that 95% of students meet the requirements of the Colorado State Attendance Law. To this end, parents are encouraged to make school attendance a priority by scheduling vacations and non-school activities outside of scheduled school hours.

Punctuality Classes begin promptly at the times stated in the *Loveland Classical Schools Handbook*. Parents are expected to have their students at school a minimum of five minutes prior to the start of classes. Disruption and loss of instruction time result when students are not in their classrooms ready to begin learning on time. Parents or guardians of tardy students must check-in their children at the office before going to class. Repeated tardiness will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the policies set forth in the *LCS Handbook*.

Dress Code Students attending Loveland Classical Schools are expected to adhere to the dress code that is published in the *Loveland Classical Schools Handbook*. The dress code supports efforts to minimize external distinctions between students and to invite the individual personalities of each student to shine through. It is imperative that parents accept and support the dress code.

Homework Students are given homework to enhance and reinforce what has been taught at school. Students must complete homework and turn it in on time to receive full credit. Missing homework can have a drastic effect on a student's grade. Parents are expected to encourage their students to complete their homework.

Discipline Loveland Classical Schools' discipline policy is included in the *Loveland Classical Schools Handbook*. The discipline policy clearly describes behavioral infractions and associated consequences and allows for suspension and expulsion in extreme cases. Repeated minor infractions will be treated as major infractions. Parents are urged to become familiar with the discipline policy.

Your child is being enrolled in Loveland Classical Schools voluntarily. Parents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the charter application and charter contract. It is necessary for parents of Loveland Classical Schools' students to be fully supportive of their children's education and educational environment.

Retain for your Records