

CCA Parents Speak Out About CCA!!!

CCA was a great choice for our family. All three of our children attended and excelled. Classes are small, teachers know their students, and the administration was willing to work with us as two of our kids went through the math science program, and the third dual enrolled at FSU. If you are worried whether CCA education can compete over the larger regional schools...our eldest went into nursing and was awarded a preadmit status to nursing program at GVSU upon her admission as a freshman and our youngest scored strong on ACT's and was just offered a full ride, four year academic scholarship from CMU. (2000 prospective scholars applied—20 were awarded).

Connie Lossing

Crossroads has been my choice of school since they opened. My kids fell in love with the school, staff, curriculum, and new friends. They went to another public school before Crossroads, but I love the smaller class size so they have more of a chance to seek help if needed. And when learning issues came up, the staff was very helpful with giving me ideas to better help them at home as well as at school. I also have never felt more invited to be involved in the classroom or elsewhere in the school. Crossroads is a very family friendly place. If you have a student that has different learning needs they find ways to keep them learning whether they are behind or ahead. These are just a few of our reasons for choosing Crossroads Charter Academy.

GO COUGARS!!!!

Bernadette (Bunny) Fuller

If we could sum up why we love Crossroads with one word, we would say, "FAMILY!" The care that the staff and teachers show the students, the parents, and each other exemplifies the warmth of a supportive environment. All of our concerns are thoughtfully considered and our children are given the individual respect, encouragement, and strong academic education they need. In this way, Crossroads Charter Academy is not only a school, it is a home away from home for our children and we could not imagine them going anywhere else!

Kris and Lora Rasmussen

My husband and I have chosen to send our two children to CCA for a number of reasons included below:

- ✓ Level of connectivity between teachers and staff
- ✓ Discipline routines in class
- ✓ Monthly award ceremony focusing on child's achievements
- ✓ Focus on character qualities and awards for displaying character qualities
- ✓ Daily announcements that include quotes from famous inspirational people and often including Biblical principles
- ✓ Wearing of uniform lowering the amount of competitive dressing among the students or seeing inappropriate clothing

We are very grateful to CCA for providing a safe, comfortable, and learning enriched environment. We have the utmost respect for the leadership and teaching staff, and know our children are becoming enriched from their attendance. We gladly support the school and its events.

Mr. and Mrs. Mahtavis Tate

I'm writing this letter to express our sincere appreciation for your providing our daughter with the wonderful educational experience. Our daughter has joined CCA in September 2009 after much disappointment with the other school district. It would have been overwhelming and confusing for her to transfer school to CCA; however, because of your wonderful teachers and paraprofessionals, she has adjusted to CCA immediately and has gained so much confidence since her first day at CCA. She is very happy going to school every day and has shown growth in all areas including academic, social and personal development. Our daughter has special needs and her development is much behind her peers at her age level; however, we as parents know that she is capable of learning and deserves to have quality education. We have observed that at CCA, teachers, principals, and all other staff members care and nurture every child at school and believe our daughter, too, can learn very much. Although she learns differently and at a slower rate than her typical peers, her teachers don't give up and try different and multiple approaches in their instruction. Because of her disabilities, she has been monitored and assisted often by your paraprofessionals especially in regular classes. With their help, she is pretty much included in everything her typical peers do; and loves and is proud to be a part of them. Your paraprofessionals are such warm, caring, and trustworthy people. They contribute so much especially for the children with special needs to be included in regular school functions and ensure their overall well-being while at school. Every time we visit CCA, we are impressed with the fact that special needs children are so well blended in with typically developing children, not segregated into a special classroom. We've also felt that regular children are very kind and caring to the children with special needs. These children including our daughter interact and learn a great deal from their typical peers and they need to have all the same opportunities and experience; however, they need extra monitoring and assistance in individual ways. Your paraprofessionals make this very important aspect of schooling possible to all children. We really appreciate how they care and assist our daughter in all areas at school. Personal quality of your teachers and paraprofessionals matters the most to us. We are very happy to send our daughter to CCA every day and recommend CCA to other families with great enthusiasm. Thank you very much for the wonderful education you have been providing to our precious daughter.

Kiyoko Metoki & Hikaru Murata

We switched our 5 kids to Crossroads from a parochial school two years ago, and we're quite pleased. The teachers are fantastic, the academics are strong, and classroom sizes remain small despite the growth in enrollment. Our kids have made many new friends, are involved in band, choir, sports, and some of the many after-school programs.

Gary & Cindy Wendlowsky

I chose Crossroads Charter Academy for my son Donny, because I knew there would be more one on one attention for him versus a public school. I am also for having uniform tops because it hinders low cuts and vulgar sayings on them. I am a Christian mother and like the fact that this school provides proper teaching (without evolution) and a centered learning process with wonderful teachers and staff. The fact that my child's teacher gets to know him on a personal level and does not treat him like he is "just another kid" is an assuring feeling. I am proud to be a CCA parent!! Leesa Guernsey

Crossroads has given my daughter the opportunity to do the things she loves, such as cheerleading, soccer, (without the fear of being "cut") and dual-enrollment at Ferris which allows her to get a head start on her college career. The classes are small and the kids are held to a good standard regarding homework and grades. We have been very happy to be a part of the Crossroads family! Ann McCreary

The transition from home schooling to CCA has been eased by the welcoming open helpful arms and friendly smiles of the entire CCA staff. Our children have met a diversity of children they would never have encountered at home. CCA is a great place for kids to flourish, and for them I am truly thankful and blessed. Thank you.

Heather Curtis: Mother of 5 CCA students

(Family just arrived from Korea)

This also was opening in my every English class in Korea for 20 years! I hesitated that I talked about my career. I'm not sure that I'm good at English as a foreign English teacher. But it was my sons, Andy and Juney, that encouraged me to be courageous. I can't forget the first day that we went to Crossroads Charter Academy. Andy was very excited that he could meet new world to challenge. Andy entered his classroom in big steps like Harry Potter through the 9 & $\frac{3}{4}$ platform. Fortunately there was not Voldemort. After school, Andy ran into my kitchen with his lots of adventures he got. He was delighted with his new big pleasant classmates. This talkative storyteller was so interested in his challengeable English class and fantastic world-history/geography class. He was so happy to meet good teachers to show him new world. He was surprised that girls were more energetic in P.E. class than boys. Andy like reading novel inside more than playing outside. Now he is enjoying tough P.E. class everyday. I was shocked that he went to school gym late afternoon to see the basketball game! On the other hand, Juney usually plays outside with his fellows. He always wants to make his world enjoyable. He, at first, was nervous of his short English. He was busy listening English in his class. It was too difficult for this enjoyable boy to understand all his friends; speedy talks. When one of his classmates explained him the "choir" as a club activities, he didn't know the meaning of that word. His lovely classmates explained it easily singing and howling together as a vocal exercise. He began to laugh from that time. Now he says hello to his classmates' and talks to them before listening. Some day he will show his skill with computer program as well as his rapid basketball play. He hopes to be a member of Google company! I hope his dream will come true. I thank CCA teachers and students so much. My boys can make their happy school life with their help.
Mom of a storyteller & a computer programmer

What brought us to CCA? The search for me started 6 years ago, my daughter was 4 years old and I had a big decision to make. Where would she attend kindergarten? At the time, I was a Ferris student, with a research assignment about a decision that I had to make. That assignment led to research information about the local schools, and although CCA was academically the best choice, I decided to enroll my daughter in a different public school. That decision to enroll her somewhere else was based on my personal comfort. I had attended a public school, and I wasn't familiar with the charter school system. Plus, a lot of her friends from her preschool were also going to that same public school, so I knew that she would have friends there. My decision changed when talking to close friends, who used to be a teacher at CCA. I was sharing that one of my biggest priorities for my kindergartener, was that she would still have "family time", and not spend a five full days a week at school. My friend encouraged me to express my desire to CCA, and I was thrilled to see their understanding reaction to my request. They really cared and accommodated my daughter to allow the best learning environment for her. So, I changed my plan. I would send her to CCA for kindergarten, and then in first grade I'd switch her to a different public school, because I was still comfortable with that idea. After a few months of her starting Kindergarten at CCA, I knew with great confidence that we would never switch to another school. There are so many amazing aspects that make CCA the best place for my daughter to receive her education. She is now in 4th grade, and CCA has become our permanent home. I am so grateful for the incredible atmosphere that CCA provides, to shape her academically and morally into a great young lady. Kerri Meeuwes

As I was thinking about what I wanted to write about Crossroads Charter Academy, one phrase kept popping into my head---Crossroads Cares. I think the phrase, Crossroads Cares, describes what Crossroads is all about. They care about and respect each other, the students they teacher, and their families. When your child attends Crossroads, they not only receive a quality education by gifted teachers, but they also become a part of a family. Once you become a part of the Crossroads Charter Academy family, you will always be a member. I have had children attending Crossroads for ten years. I current have children in 3rd, 6th, 7th, and 9th grades. Over the years, I have been a witness to see just how much they truly care about their students and their families. There have been a few times when our family was struggling financially and members of our Crossroads family helped us out. We have had a Thanksgiving dinner provided for us and we have received gift cards to help with the cost of school supplies. There have been times when we couldn't afford to send our children on field trips and that had been taken care of as well. Crossroads may be a smaller school than others in our district, but I like it that way. My children like having a smaller class size. There is more one-on-one interaction between teachers and students. The teachers and staff know each student by name. My children feel free to express themselves because the classes are smaller. The staff doesn't just care about the students during school hours. Whenever we have run into teachers or other staff members out in the community, they always greet my children with a smile and sometimes a hug. It is a wonderful feeling to know that you are loved and appreciated. That is the feeling you get when you are a part of Crossroads. I truly believe that the staff at Crossroads has a tremendous effect on our children. They lead by example. I have found that the students at Crossroads are kind, polite, and respectful. They are friendly with each other. That is a direct result of the inspirational teaching our students receive. They are taught not only knowledge but also character building principles that are reflected in how they treat each other. My children have never been picked on or bullied. I am secure in knowing that they are well taken care of when they are at school. As important as my input as a parent is, I wanted you to know what my children thought about attending Crossroads. My experiences have been limited compared to theirs. They are there every day. So I asked them what they liked most about Crossroads. Their responses were similar in nature. This is what they said. "The teachers are so nice. They really care about me. They understand me. They make learning fun." My children love going to school. Two of my children have been so inspired by their teachers that they want to be teachers when they grow up. Every day I am thankful for a school like Crossroads for my children to attend. A school where I know they are getting an excellent education. A school where I know they are loved and are being well taken care of. A school where character is as much a part of their education as reading and writing. I feel truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful school family.

Tara Nunamaker