



AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South

"Expect Excellence"

Educational Program

The purpose of AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South (ACSES) is to prepare students to reach their maximum potential in all subjects, with particular emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), and Reading using research-based, proven, exemplary curricula and enhancement programs. The school program incorporates critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, and technological literacy to prepare students for post-secondary studies and the career demands of the 21st century. Students, through a challenging and rigorous curriculum, are well prepared for higher education and life through adherence to an unwavering mission, shared purpose, and articulated goals. Students will experience a cross-curricular instructional approach in math, science, and reading. Our program allows for scientific exploration, mathematical application, and technology integration through real-world connections by incorporating critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, and technological literacy that goes far beyond basic knowledge to meet the challenges of the 21st-century global economy. Our goal is to develop students into critical thinkers and problem solvers by providing them with hands-on learning experiences to achieve academic success and become lifelong learners.

The ACSES educational program focuses on research-based methods and strategies to best meet the learning needs of all students and help them achieve the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards, as applicable to course and grade-level expectations. The school is committed to fostering a 21st-century learning program that offers inquiry-based, applied learning experiences that emphasize collaboration, investigation, and problem-solving. AcadeMir Schools strive to promote academic excellence and leadership development as key components of our educational programs. Our goal is to develop students into critical thinkers and problem solvers by providing them with hands-on learning experiences that will enable all students to achieve academic success and become lifelong learners.

ACSES has established the following best practices that have proven successful in achieving our mission and vision:

- Create a safe, nurturing academic environment where all students achieve high academic standards.
- Utilize research-based, exemplary curricula to emphasize the teaching of mathematics, science, and reading.
- Provide ongoing professional development to staff and administrators to facilitate high-quality teaching and leadership by implementing new technology tools and evaluating effectiveness to ensure maximum student learning.
- Expose students to a broad range of cultural and academic experiences in preparation for success in a global economy. Students will also recognize the importance of international collaboration and teamwork.
- Ensure high-quality resources are available to support the mission, including recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers and motivated staff.
- Meet or exceed performance outcomes of comparable student populations within the District.
- Serve all students needing specialized instructional services according to their IEP, EP, 504, and ELL plans and follow a multi-tiered Response to Intervention (RtI) support model.
- Improve academic achievement for all students.

English Language Arts

AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South provides instruction in Reading and Language Arts using Florida's B.E.S.T. Standards to promote academic excellence in reading, speaking and listening, language, and writing. Grade-specific standards guide instruction at each grade level and help ensure students gain adequate exposure to an increasingly complex range of texts and tasks as they progress. The ELA program emphasizes reading, writing, oral communication, and literary interpretation. Content includes traditional and contemporary literature, application of the writing process, formal grammar and usage, effective speaking and listening skills, higher-order reading strategies, and study skills essential for academic success.

Mathematics

The mathematics curriculum at ACSES aims to develop students' mastery of mathematical concepts and their ability to reason, communicate, and solve problems. This foundation enables students to remain competitive in an ever-changing, fast-paced, technology-rich society. The program fosters numerical literacy by building mathematical knowledge, problem-solving ability, and communication skills. Instruction emphasizes academic

excellence in foundational skills, geometry, algebraic thinking, problem solving, and mathematical reasoning. These skills prepare students for success on the FAST B.E.S.T. Standards and for real-world applications.

Science

The science curriculum is aligned to the Florida State Standards (FSSS) and supports an inquiry-based approach focused on key scientific themes: matter and energy, force and motion, earth and space, life processes, and the scientific method. ACSES offers a project-based approach to teaching and learning that connects academic concepts to students' lives and the world around them. The program incorporates cross-disciplinary learning in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. Each module develops essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance through the design process.

Students conduct hands-on investigations in fully equipped classroom-based science labs and participate in weekly STEM Lab sessions as part of their special area rotation. Scientific inquiry is offered to all students in grades K–5, promoting exploration and investigation through guided, real-world experiences.

Social Studies

ACSES delivers a Social Science curriculum that aligns with the NGSSS and integrates content-area literacy standards. Social Science instruction promotes patriotism, civic responsibility, and engagement in public affairs. The curriculum supports students' understanding of democratic principles, historical context, and global interdependence. Instruction incorporates content, concepts, and skills from the social sciences, humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences where appropriate.

Foreign Language

The Spanish curriculum focuses on the systematic development of phonemic awareness, reading, writing, and listening skills for both native and non-native Spanish-speaking students. The program builds proficiency in oral and written communication and deepens understanding of Hispanic culture. Instruction is supported by digital resources, including e-books. As students master vocabulary and grammatical structures, they are introduced to reading and writing activities to reinforce literacy and oral fluency. All students in grades K–5 participate in Spanish as a weekly elective.

Physical Education

The physical education program at ACSES promotes health, physical fitness, an appreciation for sports, and safety through structured and standards-based instruction. Physical Education and Health Education is a state requirement, and we understand that physical activity is important for the prevention of child obesity and to ensure the health of adolescents. The P.E. program will consist of a standard based, balanced, sequential and progressive program-involving moderate to vigorous physical activity. It always strives to be in step with the current practices and procedures in education and to contribute to the all-around development and education of students. Students in K-5th taught to develop lifelong habits of physical wellness that contribute to overall physical and mental well-being.

Art

AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South offers art education as an elective course weekly to students in K-5th grade, this course will follow the Florida Standards/NGSS for Visual Arts. At ACSES the goal of art education is to allow students the opportunity to explore and develop their creative potential. ACSES will follow the Florida standards and will expose students to the many components of art including production, history, criticism, and aesthetics. ACSES will participate in district exhibitions, competitions, participate in community-based art experiences and will display their creations in an annual art show hosted at the school. Our goal is to develop students' critical thinking skills, creative confidence, hands-on skills, visual literacy, self-esteem, and an appreciation for the arts.

Music

AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South will follow the Florida Standards/NGSS and offer a music program to all K-5th grade students that will instill instruction in music skills and appreciation for various genres of music. The curriculum will follow the Florida Standards and skills that involve singing, playing instruments, interpretation of music, and creative expression. The music teacher will have an opportunity to collaborate with core instructional teachers to assist in interdisciplinary projects or assignments. Practicing music reinforces teamwork, communication skills, self-discipline, and creativity.

Innovative Program Offerings

ACSES will offer students STEM education that is innovative and focuses on a student-centered learning environment that sustains an educational culture that promotes creativity, innovation, and collaborative problem-solving. Additionally, all students will participate in a STEM Program, which will expose students to an interdisciplinary curriculum,

that integrates Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering, while engaging in the exploration of career interests, and courses relating to Engineering, Robotics, and Coding. The purpose of the STEM Program is to increase student achievement, through the cross curricular integration of STEM. Students will have opportunities to conduct hands-on STEM investigations, improve team building and leadership skills, explore certification/career options, and interact with community stakeholders to solve real world problems.

In our pursuit of offering a rigorous STEM based program AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South is committed to successfully implementing highly effective, deliberate and intentional STEM practices. Our program encompasses the allocation of an extended school day to successfully implement STEM into the school's daily schedule. ACSES offers a weekly STEM Lab course, a daily 30-minute STEM Block, school-wide STEM Integration across the curriculum, extracurricular enrichments to support and enhance STEM learning beyond the classroom, participation in student competitions, showcases and establish community partnerships that support and enhance our STEM program. Our goal is to challenge today's digital learner through the infusion of higher-order thinking skills, use of a standard-driven intentional STEM integration so that our student grows and excels into critical thinkers, increase science literacy and enabling the next generation of innovators.

STEM Curriculum

ACSES has adopted the proven STEM Enrichment program, Project Lead the Way as its core instruction K-5th grade. Through this STEM curriculum students will be able to learn the Engineering Design Process a method of approaching and solving problems. The curriculum involves students and teachers using this process throughout the STEM challenge, from clearly identifying the problem to creating and developing solutions. To assist in this process the school will utilize Project Lead the Way a STEM curriculum that offers K-12 pathways in computer science, engineering, robotics, coding, and biomedical sciences. This high-quality STEM curriculum allows students to experience authentic hands-on learning experiences, understand how key science, math, technology, and engineering concepts are applied in the world.

STEM teaching involves inquiry-based lessons where students carry out hands-on investigations that encourage critical thinking and problem solving. The lessons are not prescriptive, and teachers play a facilitator role, providing just enough guidance and monitoring. Students have the opportunity to plan, make decisions, and test their ideas as possible solutions. Multiple right answers are possible as students work to solve a problem.

The classroom environment is risk-free, and mistakes and design failures are treated as good methods of learning.

STEM LAB (K -5th) - PLTW Launch

AcadeMir Charter School Elementary South offers a STEM Lab as a special area course through a science elective class. As with other disciplines, instruction in science at ACSES begins with inquiry in order to develop real world applications. Students in K-5th grade will have the opportunity to attend a weekly class that will allow them to experiment by providing real-life opportunities as they access Project Lead the Way Model (PLTW) Launch program. Students will go through the Engineering Design Process Model and the Structure and Function of the Design Process. Students will have an opportunity to go through 4 different modules throughout the year. Each PLTW Launch module engages students in cross-disciplinary activities that spark a lifelong love of learning and build knowledge and skills in areas including computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. In addition, each module empowers students to develop essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and technological literacy that goes far beyond the basic knowledge to meet the challenges of the 21-century global economy.

Daily STEM BLOCK

At ACSES, students will receive daily STEM instruction designated to make core subjects like English Language Arts, Math and Science relevant for students, and at the same time, foster creativity, curiosity and a passion for problem solving. STEM is about using math and science to solve real-world challenges and problems. This applied, project-based way of teaching and learning allows students to understand and appreciate the relevancy of their work to their own lives and the world around them. Once they grasp core concepts, students are able to choose a problem and use their own creativity and curiosity to research, design, test and improve a viable solution.

ROBOTICS PROGRAM

ACSES will offer a rigorous robotics program after school three times a week. Robotics helps address our mission of providing our students with a well-rounded education through academic rigor that emphasizes the demand for teaching science, technology, engineering and math in our school. As well as exemplifying technology directly by programming robots, students also learn about science, engineering and math and get an understanding of how these subjects link together. This program will allow students to explore real-world scientific concepts through

research, teamwork, construction, and imagination as students prepare for local and state competitions. The students in grades K-3rd will utilize Powered by Lego Education and 4-5th grade will utilize VEX IQ program.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

ACSES will offer an extensive extra-curricular enrichment program that will spark the interests of students and parents, saving parents time and effort searching for these programs outside of the school. The co-curricular program will support the goal of developing the whole child; these programs encompass clubs, sports, enrichment academies and before/aftercare Program. ACSES will offer:

Academic Enrichment:

- Morning Homework Help
- After-School Tutoring
- F.A.S.T. Enrichment Academy
- Saturday Success Academy

Clubs and Activities:

- Robotics Club
- National Elementary Honor Society
- Student Government
- SECME and Science Clubs
- Art Club, Chess Club
- Safety Patrols
- TV Production & Broadcasting
- Newspaper Club

Sports and Fine Arts:

- Dance, Cheerleading, Taekwondo
- Basketball, Soccer, Gymnastics
- Music and Art enrichment classes

These programs offer opportunities for leadership, creativity, physical wellness, and academic growth while reinforcing the school's mission to provide a well-rounded educational experience.