



# Cities of Belle Isle & Edgewood Charter Academies: Information Meeting



# Cities of Belle Isle & Edgewood Charter Academies

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## School Choice

“We’re committed to school choice because equal opportunity starts with equal options for education. And because the competition of choice drives positive change in our public schools.”

Governor Jeb Bush  
State of the State Address to the Florida Legislature  
March 7, 2006

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# Regulatory Freedoms and Limitations for Charter Schools

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- Charter Schools are public schools and are governed by School Board and by Florida DOE
  - Charter Schools are well regulated from the perspective of fiscal accountability, academic assessments and student health/safety/welfare
  - Charter schools have a high degree of flexibility in terms of size, academic programs, uniforms, student life (eg. Code of Conduct) and facilities
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# *Cities of Belle Isle and Edgewood Charter Academies – Curriculum Overview*

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The Charter Academies aim to offer the residents of Belle Isle and Edgewood with a top shelf core academic curriculum, with extracurricular activities including sports, music and arts in an environment conducive to learning from teachers who are passionate about their chosen field.

Our goal is to offer a choice educational opportunity in life sciences and biotechnology studies preparing them for a fulfilling, meaningful career.



# K-8 Innovations

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- Inquiry-based, research-based, standards-based, hands-on
    - OCPS Reading Plan, Carnegie, etc
  - Autonomy for Teachers
    - Teachers feel an ownership and passion for teaching & learning
  - Project-based learning using cutting-edge technology
  - Partnership with Somerset Academy, Inc. to provide resources, assist in implementation of best practices
  - International Faculty Program
  - Multi-age classrooms
  - K-8 Model - Seamless Transition from elementary to middle to high school
  - Continuous assessment
    - District Benchmark Tests, FCAT, etc.
    - Drives grouping for differentiated instruction
  - Students pushed to take high school level courses
  - Parental Involvement – ongoing communication with parents
  - The city has a good relationship with its citizens and will be in constant communication
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# 9-12 Innovations

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- Biotechnology & Life Science focus
    - Inquiry-based, research-based, standards-based, hands-on
      - OCPS Reading Plan, Carnegie, etc.
    - Project-based learning using cutting-edge technology
  - Advanced Placement/College Preparatory curriculum
  - Career Model
  - Partnership with Somerset Academy, Inc. to provide resources, assist in implementation of best practices
  - Continuous Assessment
    - District Benchmark Tests, FCAT, SAT, etc.
    - Drives grouping for differentiated instruction
  - Parental Involvement Component – ongoing communication with parents
  - Autonomy for Teachers
    - Teachers feel an ownership and passion for teaching & learning
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# Goals and Objectives

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- Initial school goals (K-12) will, at minimum, be measurable, meet District standards and target all student's learning needs
  - Annually, student learning objectives will be revised and adjusted through the SIP to meet and/or exceed district and/or state averages
  - Offer an "Educational Village" to the communities of Belle Isle, Edgewood and Orange County.
  - SACS Accreditation
  - Raise High School Graduation Rate
    - Guidance counselor, mandatory for students to fill out/submit college applications, scholarship application assistance, etc
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# Timeline: Student Enrollment

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- Enrollment priority to children living within the boundaries of the Cities of Belle Isle and Edgewood
- Pre-enrollment survey begins Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Fill out provided pre-application sheet to be placed on the initial enrollment period list
- Pre-Enrollment Period:
  - 2/21/10 through 2/26/10
- Initial Enrollment Period
  - 2 weeks - March 2010
- Subsequent Enrollment Periods:
  - If the number of applicants exceeds capacity an admission lottery will be conducted



# Timeline: Recruitment/Hiring of Staff

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- Selection of Principal
    - Resumes currently under review
    - Principal to be hired by mid- February
  - Selection of Staff
    - Immediately following Principal hiring, staff interviews will be conducted and hiring decisions will begin to be made by the Principal
  - Parent Orientation – June – July 2010
  - School Opens – August 23, 2010
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# Results – Somerset Academy, Inc. Report Card 2009



SCHOOL	Grade	Points Earned	Reduced Lunch	Minority Rate
SOMERSET ACADEMY	A	601	19	87
SOMERSET ACADEMY (MIRAMAR CAMPUS)	A	565	57	94
SOMERSET ACADEMY CHARTER	B	583	43	90
SOMERSET ACADEMY DAVIE CHARTER	A	656	99	62
SOMERSET ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL	A	580	21	81
SOMERSET ACADEMY CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL	A	587	46	90
SOMERSET ACADEMY MIDDLE (MIRAMAR CAMPUS)	A	610	54	89
SOMERSET ACADEMY MIDDLE COUNTRY PALMS	N/A	451	64	100
SOMERSET ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH CAMPUS	N/A	693	86	93
SOMERSET ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH	A	529	26	82
SOMERSET ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH CAMPUS	B	508	76	94
SOMERSET ARTS CONSERVATORY	N/A	608	15	81
<b>Total</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>87</b>