



Dear Parents,

The last time that I contacted you, I gave you a broad description of what LCCPA is all about. I also said that I wanted to clear up some of the misconceptions that some people have about our school. Usually these misconceptions begin with a phrase like "Those charter school kids..." or "The charter school...", and are said in such a way that the person making the statement feels as if he or she is an authority on LCCPA. My goal with this contact is to address some of those misconceptions.

***"Those charter school kids miss out on all of the social aspects of high school"***

There is no question that LCCPA has a unique social structure. However, this structure only enhances the social experience for a student in high school. We have noticed that our students have developed very close bonds with one another, and many of them talk about how LCCPA is like a family. Furthermore, LCCPA students are very active in all of the social aspects of Little Chute High School. We have students on the cross country, volleyball, pom and dance, football, basketball, wrestling, soccer, golf, track teams, many participating at a very high level. Our students are involved in student council and in clubs. Our students attend homecoming and prom and have been voted to be members of homecoming and prom court.

***"The charter school is only for high achieving students."***

LCCPA is not for high achieving students or low achieving students. LCCPA is for any student who wants to take control of their own education and have the opportunity to learn and develop the skills that employers want from their employees. Our current student body consists of very high academic achievers and students who have struggles in the classroom. All students have the opportunity to benefit from the program that we have developed.

***"The charter school is only for 'problem' kids."***

Oddly enough, while some people feel that LCCPA is only for high academic achievers, others feel that LCCPA is only for low achieving kids or kids who struggle with school. As mentioned above, we have all different types of students at LCCPA, and we welcome all different types of students. The main criterion for success at LCCPA is the desire to work hard and learn how to be a self-directed learner.

***"Those charter school kids won't be able to go to college"***

The LCCPA academic curriculum is very rigorous and designed to exceed the requirements of college admission. Any course that is available to LCHS students is available to LCCPA students as well. In fact, our students have access to college prep course work that LCHS students don't necessarily have. Our curriculum includes Project Lead The Way, which is the premier engineering and bio-medical sciences preparation curriculum in the country. LCCPA has been instrumental in adding Medical Terminology and College Biology to the menu of academic options available to both LCCPA and LCHS students. Members of our first graduating class are attending UW Madison, Marquette University, UW Oshkosh, UW Fox Valley, and Fox Valley Technical College. Members of our current senior class have been accepted to St. Norbert College, Marian University, UW Eau Claire, and other colleges and universities. There are no limitations in what our students can do after high school if they take charge of their learning and take advantage of everything we have to offer.

***"Those charter school kids just sit around on their computers all day. I hear they just play on Facebook and don't really do anything at all."***

Technology is a huge part of what we do at LCCPA. All of our students do have computers. This access to technology is what makes our curriculum so flexible and what allows our students to work on academics "at their own pace." However, computer work is not ALL our students do. They read, discuss, present, and work together on projects and science labs just like other students. And, as far as "playing on Facebook" is concerned, our students are not allowed to play games and use social media in school. Now, our kids are the same as kids everywhere and try to get away with inappropriate behaviors at times. We address those issues as they would be addressed in any academic setting. Some of the most important skills that we work on at LCCPA are goal setting, time management, and working productively. Our students often fail to meet these goals, but, with our encouragement, our format allows our students to develop these skills in way that would not be possible in a traditional format.

Finally, I would like to remind you of the important upcoming dates that will allow you and your student to learn more details about the LCCPA program.

January 9th, 2017 – Eighth Grade Informational/Preview Day [ALL LCMS and SJS 8<sup>th</sup> grade students]  
January 18th, 2017 - Family Informational Meeting 6:00 pm [LCHS Auditorium]

I hope that this helps address some of the questions and concerns that may have come up in your conversations about LCCPA. If you have time, please check out our website at <http://www.lccpa.littlechute.k12.wi.us/>. We have put a lot of work into making this site as informative as possible. However, make sure that you come back often, because we are in a continual process of updating and improving the site to make it the best it can be. As always, please contact me at [spvolk@littlechute.k12.wi.us](mailto:spvolk@littlechute.k12.wi.us) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Shawn Volk