



Jackson-Via Elementary School

508 Harris Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903

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Web: <http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/schools/jacksonvia>

This school is fully accredited by the state.

Dr. Tracie Daniels, Principal



Home of the Jackrabbits!

Whatever it Takes...

Jackson-Via is known for its welcoming atmosphere and nurturing culture. Meeting the needs of each individual student and providing quality learning experiences are top priorities for the staff. We focus on the development and engagement of students, staff, parents, and our community. Relationships among adults and children support a loving atmosphere where students are challenged to learn and grow as individuals.

The instructional program addresses children's early childhood development and learning while focusing on and supporting academic achievement in the upper grades. Specialists in Reading, Mathematics, Gifted Education, and English as a Second Language enhance both the overall instructional program and individual student learning.



Jackson-Via's special education department is home to the city's elementary programs for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The professionals and support staff specialize in the use of assistive technology, sensory processing challenges, total communication, as well as augmentative and alternative communication, and believe that every child can learn, no matter what challenges they face.

Jackson-Via strives daily to live by our school motto: "As lifelong learners, we do whatever it takes to do our best, to become our best, and to help others reach that goal." The school enjoys a rich instructional program in the arts and movement. In addition to weekly instruction,

students in 4th grade experience a year-long introduction to violin, and a year-long dance and movement

experience with the Richmond Ballet, called "Minds in Motion." The school hosts an artist-in-residency songwriting workshop each year with "Kid Pan Alley."

Character Development

Students and staff learn and follow the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. Outstanding citizens in each grade are recognized by the principal weekly. Students in the upper grades earn recognition through CLIMB (Choosing Lifeskills in Modeling Behavior). The student Safety Patrol provides a daily presence and role modeling. The Jackson-Via Bully Nots are a student-led group that works to stop bullying. Bully Nots are "upstanders", not bystanders, who defend and support peers. They promote an anti-bullying message through song, dance, rap, skits, and the spoken word. All staff members are trained in the Olweus bullying prevention program, establishing a common language and standard procedure for dealing with bullying.

Technology

Three mornings a week, the day starts with "JV JAM!," a live school broadcast produced entirely by students in the library's digital studio. Students regularly use SMART boards, computers, and Flip cameras to create and present information and research. The school utilizes WordPress to help students learn about and use the Read/Write Web. Students have explored blogging through an afterschool computer club and class projects.

Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

The Jackson-Via staff works closely with families. We hold ourselves accountable to meet with 100% of our students' parents. Our staff venture on neighborhood walks, make home visits, and host parent conferences in the community. Bilingual staff members sponsor a phone line for Spanish-speaking families and provide translation at meetings.

The Jackson-Via PTO is a supportive component of the school, and includes all parents, guardians, and staff as members. Together the school and PTO host monthly family nights, featuring student performances,

exploration of instructional technology, cultural celebrations, and many others. Childcare is always provided for evening meetings.

Our Back-to-School Night and Family Picnic is a community tradition, with a review of instruction and a catered picnic. Rocktoberfest is our main annual fundraiser and *fun*-raiser, featuring games, raffles, and music. *Leamos Juntos* (Reading Together) is a monthly event welcoming Spanish-speaking families for dinner, conversation, shared reading, and selection of take-home bilingual books from our library.

Green Initiatives

- 2009 ENERGY STAR® certified building
- Charlottesville Community Design Marathon led to a 20-acre master design for outdoor learning environments and exploration
- 2010 Hartfield Foundation grant recipient to install a fruiting ornamental hedge and raised vegetable beds
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (USDA grant) provides daily fresh snacks and tastings
- Schoolwide Energy Improvement Plan
- Annual nature trip to Camp Albemarle
- Single stream recycling
- Harris Teeter plastic bag recycling program
- Integrated pest management
- Buses use biodiesel fuel, anti-idling policy

Awards and Recognitions

- 2011 Virginia Board of Education Competence to Excellence Award
- 2009 Panasonic National School Change Award (1 of 6 schools in the U.S.)
- 2009 Virginia Board of Education's VIP Excellence Award
- 2007 Charlottesville Area Community Foundation \$10,525 grant recipient to strengthen family outreach and parental involvement
- 2007 Silver medal winner in the Governor's Award for Nutrition and Physical Activity
- 2006 Recipient of the local "Reach Them to Teach Them" award for outreach efforts

Jackson-Via's History

Jackson -Via Elementary School takes its name from two eminent Charlottesville educators: Nannie Cox Jackson and Betty Davis Via. The school opened in 1969, as the city's first elementary school that was planned and built as a desegregated elementary school. In 2008, the students, staff, and the community created a mosaic symbolically representing the arms of the school reaching out to the community.

What Parents Say about Jackson-Via School

"I have been blown away by the teachers and staff at this school. They are loving and very good at managing kids."

"We were considering the options of home schooling and private school, but we were so impressed with Jackson-Via we chose to send our children there, and we're glad we did!"

"It is an amazing school that is one of the best kept secrets...a total commitment from top to bottom and side to side that reaches out to each child."

School Population (June 2011)

Enrollment: 244

Asian/Pacific Islander: 2.9%

Black: 54.9%

Hispanic: 15.6%

White: 26.2%

Unspecified: 0.4%

ESL students: 30.4%

Gifted students: 12.3%

Special Education students: 18.9%

Pupil/teacher ratio: 17:1

