



Liberty Common School

1725 Sharp Point Drive • Fort Collins, CO 80525 • (970) 482-9800

Principal: Russell D. Spicer

School colors: Blue & white

Grades: K – 9

School mascot: Eagle

Enrollment: 565

A National Core Knowledge Visitation Site - A Nationally Recognized Blue Ribbon School

Our mission is to provide excellence and fairness in education through a common foundation. This is achieved by successfully teaching a contextual body of organized knowledge, the values of a democratic society, and the skills of learning.

Common knowledge

Liberty's curriculum, the Core Knowledge sequence, encompasses language arts, mathematics, science, history, geography, fine arts, and physical education. The curriculum is distinguished by a planned progression of knowledge that is specific, solid, and shared. Classic literature, appropriate to the age and ability of each child, is read extensively.

Common virtues

Liberty's foundation stones—Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation, Self Control, Perseverance, Integrity, and Citizenship—define our school culture and our expected behavior for students.

Common sense

At Liberty, progressive thinking skills, unique to each discipline, are used to guide students in applying discernment to knowledge. The skills of learning, reading, writing, calculating, and speaking are learned through curriculum, modeling, coaching, and practice. Students develop skills using programs including Shurley Grammar, Thompson Grammar, Writing with

Structure and Style, Open Court Phonics, and Singapore Math.

More than Core Knowledge

Latin is taught throughout the grades with instruction beginning in 5th grade. Spanish instruction begins in kindergarten. Our science curriculum is expanded to include current science advancements. In music, students learn to play recorder (grade 3) and guitar (grade 4) and may elect band, orchestra, or choir (grades 5–9). Basic economic principles enhance the study of history. Computer technology instruction includes basic hardware, system architecture, and programming.

Learning culture

Liberty has 58 students per grade enabling personal relationships with teachers. A dress code for students sets the school apart as a place of academic dignity and minimizes competition among students. Our rich curriculum, well-trained teachers, and standards for behavior create a safe learning atmosphere. Athletics and extracurricular activities provide opportunities for students to cultivate leadership, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Opportunities for parents

Parents actively support children's academic progress and moral values, volunteer on committees and in classrooms, and serve on the Board of Directors.



Ridgeview Classical Schools

1800 South Lemay Avenue • Fort Collins, CO 80525 • (970) 494-4620

Principal: Mr. Florian Hild

Grades: K – 12

Enrollment: 760

“A classical education for modern times. Learn to live. Live to learn”

The mission of Ridgeview Classical Schools is to develop the academic potential and personal character of each student through academically rigorous, content-rich educational programs.

Educational programs

Elementary K–6 programs include fully implemented Core Knowledge curriculum; character education; explicit phonics program; ability grouping in areas of reading and math; grammar and writing; Greek and Latin roots; daily instruction in Spanish K–5 and Latin 6; art; karate; music; and physical education.

Intermediate 7–8 programs include Core Knowledge curriculum; character education; instruction in Latin daily; and electives: band, choir, orchestra, P.E., and computing.

High School 9–12 Classical curriculum: the classics of Western literature; original sources in history; emphasis on concepts in math and science; required semester of Latin (electives available through Latin IV); modern languages taught by native speakers; required semester of moral philosophy. Electives include band, choir, orchestra, computing, languages, art history, studio art, swing dance, logic, rhetoric, world events, and economics.

Faculty profile

Teachers: 50 full- and part-time teachers at Ridgeview Classical Schools are hired based on their mastery of academic disciplines in the liberal arts and sciences, and certification is not required. Currently, half of the high school teachers have a master's degree or higher, and 20% have taught at the college level.

Extracurricular

K–6: Drama club, literary magazine, award-winning Lego team, National Geography Bee, science fair; chess club, district spelling bee.

7–8: Literary magazine, National Latin Exam, MathCounts, chess club, award-winning Lego team, dances, Madrigal players, district solo/small ensemble music festival, games & pizza nights, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and track.

9–12: Strategy games/chess club, yearbook, literary magazine, all high-school Prom and other dances, student government, Madrigal players and singers, plays and musicals, choir competitions, jazz band, National Latin Exam, Mock Trial, film society, games and pizza nights.

Students at Ridgeview can and do participate in local district varsity sports.