



OPEN HOUSE PRESENTATION

Winter 2016



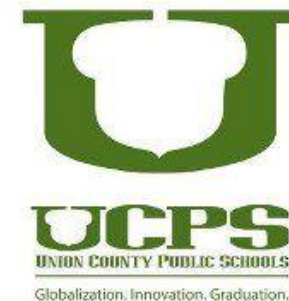
OUR LEADERSHIP

Mary Moss Brown Head of School

- Experienced teacher and principal at all levels, in many different types of schools
- Experienced school founder

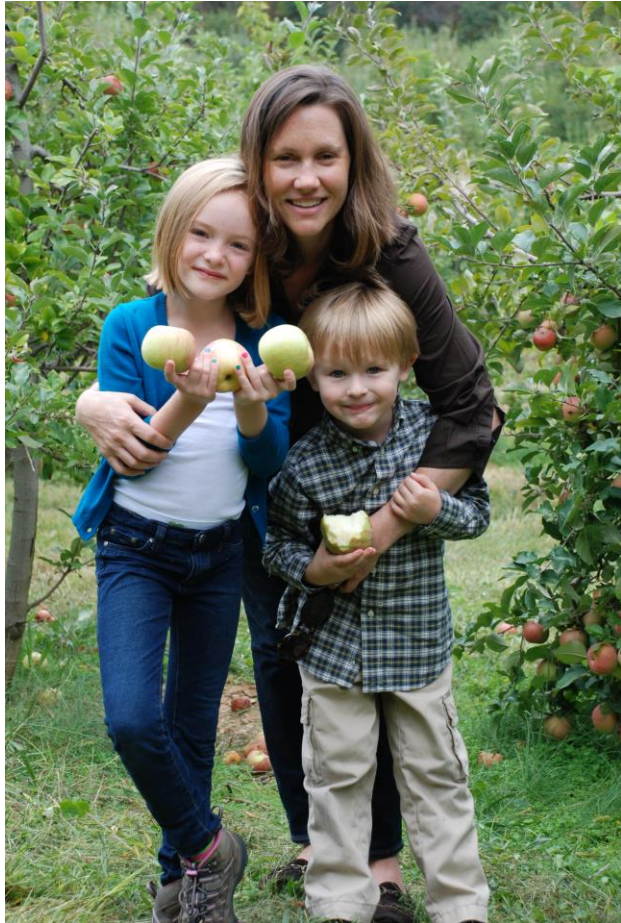
Vikki Tunick Assistant Head of School

- Experienced teacher, curriculum designer, and coach
- Bilingual speaker





OUR DREAM



A school where we wanted to send our own children:

- Small & nurturing
- Diverse
- Joyful & meaningful work
- Exposure to the City & resources
- Bilingual approach



OUR VISION

Charlotte Lab School uses the **city as our classroom** to provide an **rigorous project based curriculum** in a **small nurturing environment**, where students also learn a **second language.**



EXPANDED CLASSROOM

- **Charlotte Resources** are our Expanded Classroom
- **Exposure** to what's possible
- Learn from and alongside **experts** in various fields
- Develop **skills for life** beyond college
- **Partnerships:** Discovery Place and Children's Theater of Charlotte



ENGAGING INSTRUCTION

- Aligned to prepare students for **high school** and **college**
- Content taught through projects and **real world challenges** – Authentic Application of 21st Century Skills
- **Unique Physical Space** of the Learning Environment
- Individualized **Learning Lab** and **Flexible Grouping** in Classes enable students to work on “just-right” level
- Use of **Technology** to Enhance Learning



KNOWING STUDENTS

- Through our **advisory program**, every adult in the building will be responsible for a group of 12-13 students – a **“family” at school**
- **Know your child well** – work that’s too easy and too challenging; your child will have a **Personalized Learning Plan**
- Meet regularly; time and content **adjusted for age and development** at each grade level
- Teach your child **Mindfulness Techniques** to help them adapt socially & emotionally to various situations
- **Communicate** with you about struggles & triumphs



LANGUAGE IMMERSION

- Every student can become **conversationally fluent in Spanish or Mandarin** by the end of 8th grade
- Early learning of a second language is research-proven to lead to **higher student achievement**
- Bilingualism provides students with a **competitive advantage**
- Learning about another culture promotes **global and cultural awareness**



OUR VALUES

We believe in:

- **Innovation** - Schools should **adapt to the needs of students** and make learning relevant since our world and workplace is constantly changing.
- **Flexibility** - Families should have **options**; all schools are not the right “fit” for every child.
- **Diversity** - This model is **possible with ALL kids** – diversity enriches the experience for all students.



HOW IS IT POSSIBLE?

Similar Models

- Chicago Lab School
- Lab School, Manhattan
- Science Leadership Academy, Philadelphia
- High Tech High, Middle & Elementary
- Community School of Davidson

NYC iSchool





ABOUT LAB

School size:

- Currently have 280 students in grades K-4
- We will grow to serve 540 students in grades K-8 over the next 5 years

Class size:

- K-2: largest classes each day has 21 students
- 3-4: largest classes each day has 25 students



ABOUT LAB

Uniform School:

- Any solid color shirt with a color; khaki or navy bottoms

School calendar:

- Closely mirrors CMS calendar: August 24-June 3

Daily schedule:

- 8:15am to 3:45pm, with extended hours from 7:45am (early drop off) to 5:45pm (after school care)



QUESTIONS?

- What is a Charter School?**
- What is a Lab School?**
- What services does Charlotte Lab School provide?**
- What enrichment opportunities does the school provide?**
- Is Lab a good fit for your family?**

To learn more, visit:
www.charlottelabschool.org



ABOUT CHARTERS

What is a charter school?

- Tuition-free, public school
- Governed by an independent Board of Directors that reports directly to NC Department of Public Instruction
- Funding
 - Funding from NC state for each student
 - 501©3 non-profit organization
 - Eligible for grants and fundraising opportunities
- Open to ALL kids – no admissions requirements
- 100% lottery enrollment process



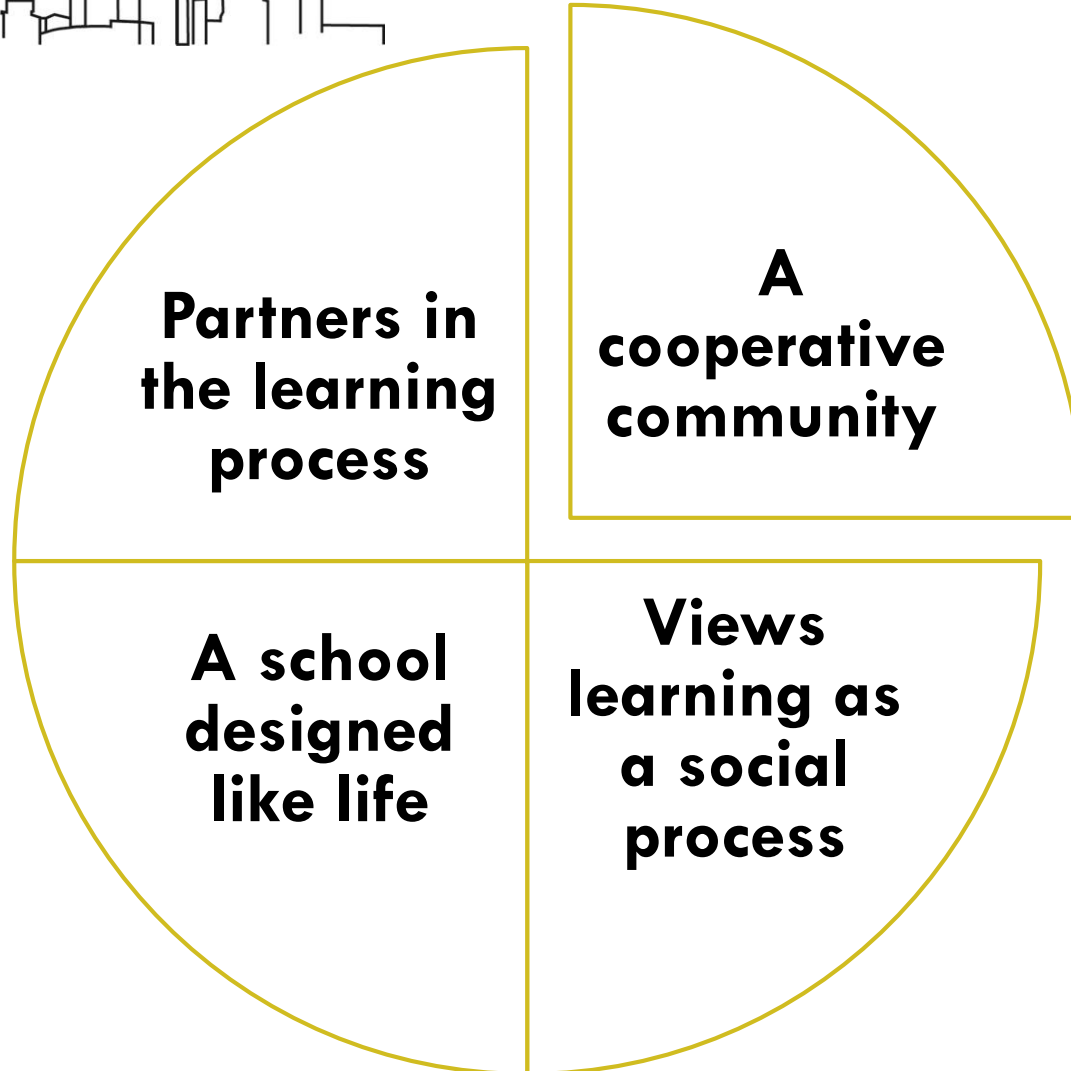
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THE LAB SCHOOL MODEL





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SERVICES & SUPPORT

Transportation:

- Currently contracted 2 school buses serving approx. 145 students
- Cluster stops located throughout the city

Lunch:

- Contracted catering provided by Wholesome Tummies; fresh and healthy school lunch meals
- Complimentary Lunch Program available to families who qualify

Charlotte Lab School is committed to ensuring access to these and other support services for ANY/ALL students/families who wish to attend our school!



SERVICES & SUPPORT

After School Programs:

After School care provided from 3:45pm – 5:45pm

Yoga; Taekwondo; Music is Fun; Soccer Shots; Play Spanish; Children's Theater; Robotics;

Special Education Services:

As a public school, Lab School provides all services required by a student's IEP or 504

Charlotte Lab School is committed to ensuring access to these supports and services for ANY/ALL students/families who wish to attend our school!



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ENRICHMENT

- Each student rotates through **Art, Music, Drama, & Maker Lab** as a 9 week project-based enrichment experience
- 45 minutes of **Physical Education** is offered daily; students rotate through Lab Fit; Sports Skills; Taekwondo; Golf; Street Dance; Ballroom Dance, etc.
- 20 mins of **Recess/Free Play** everyday
- New **First Ward Park** as our green space



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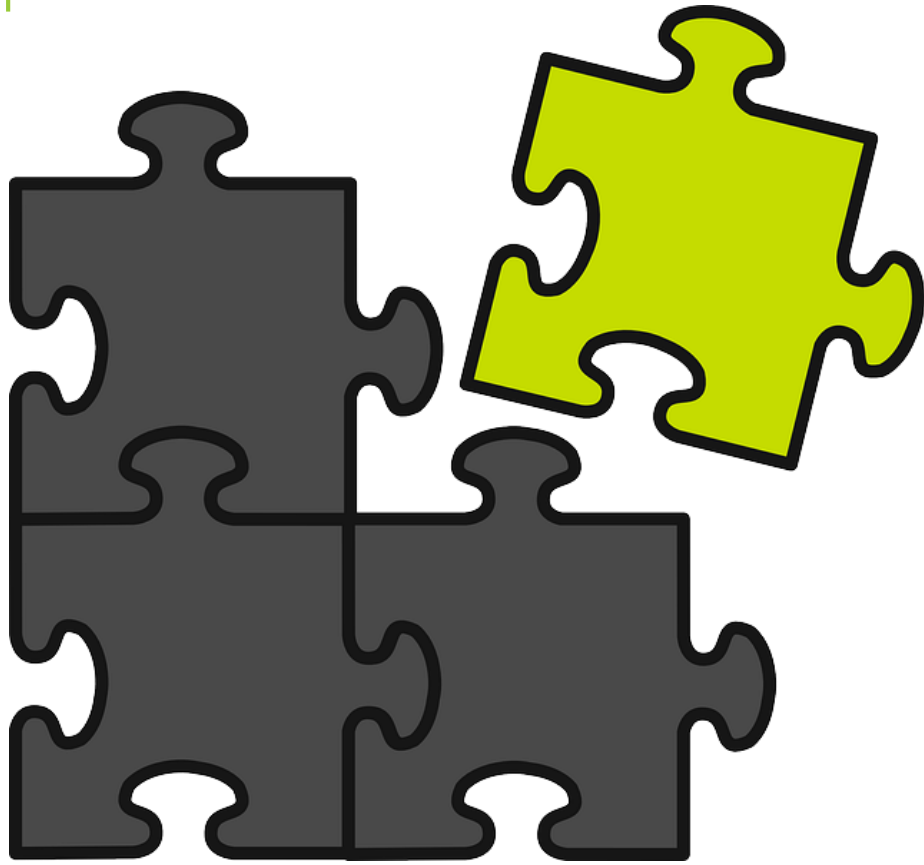
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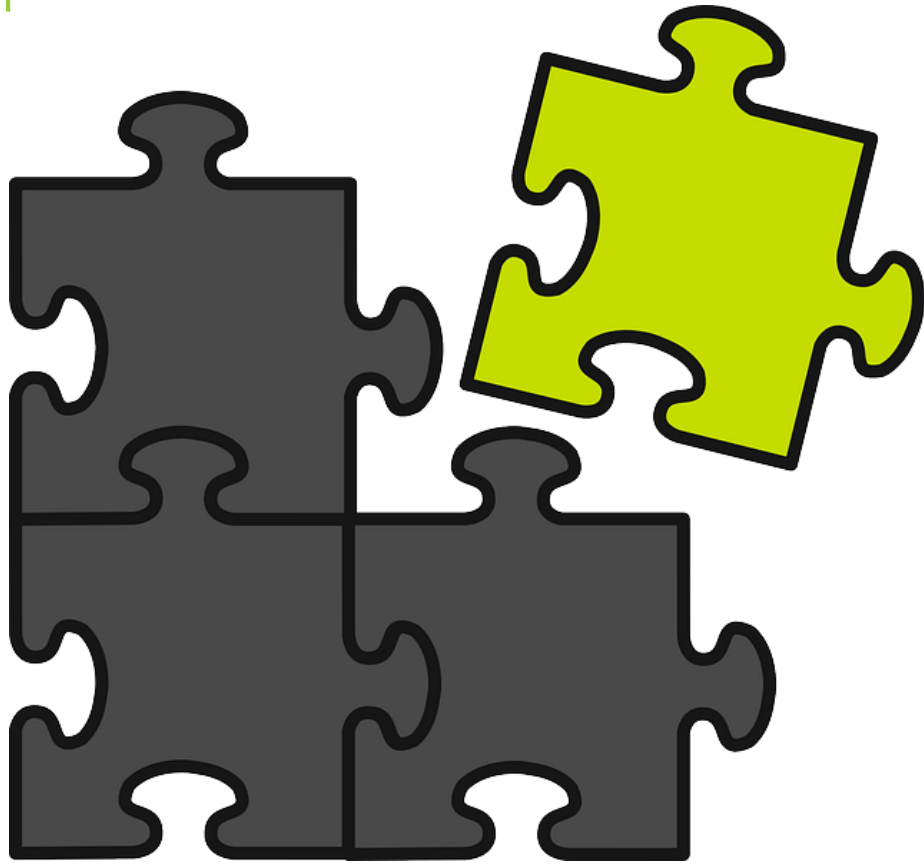
JUST RIGHT FIT

Your family should consider the following points as you think about whether Charlotte Lab School is a good fit for your child:

- 1. Changing classes daily** – beginning in Kindergarten, all students have a homeroom, and they transition to different content classes during the day
- 2. Subject area teachers** – your family will maintain contact and manage school work from multiple teachers



JUST RIGHT FIT

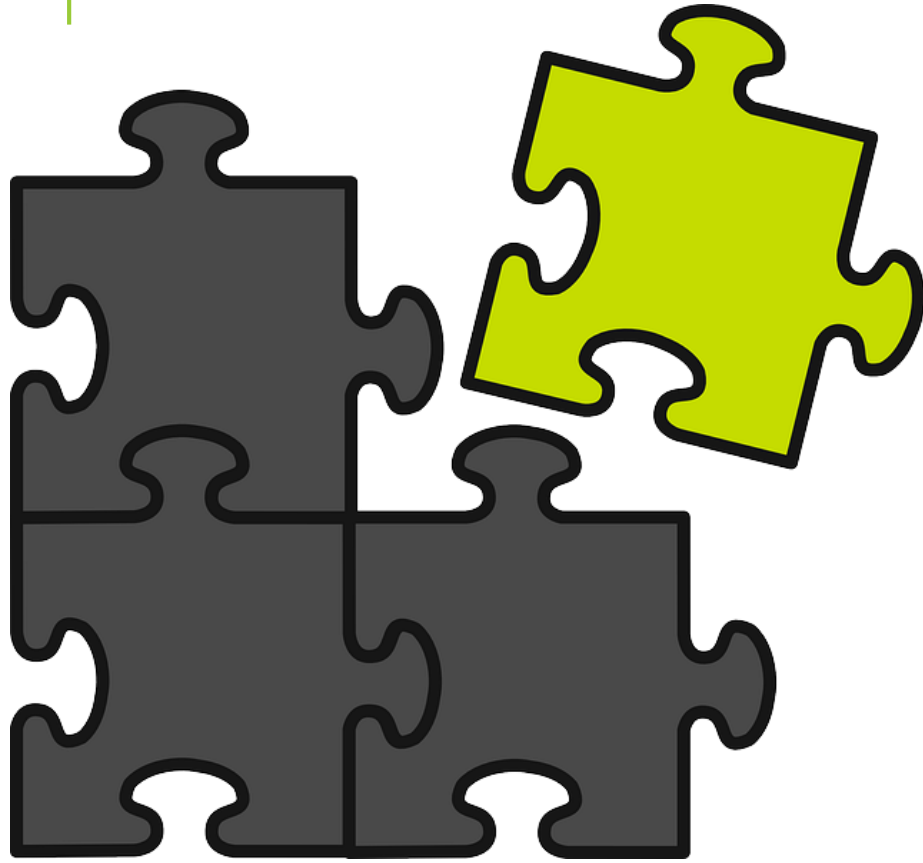


- 3. Direct contact with advisors** – your child’s advisor serves as your primary liaison with the school; knows and supports your child socially, emotionally, & academically
- 4. Homework Philosophy** – we believe homework should only be assigned when it is meaningful and will be checked by teachers; it is assigned weekly so families have flexibility when determining when to get it done

JUST RIGHT FIT



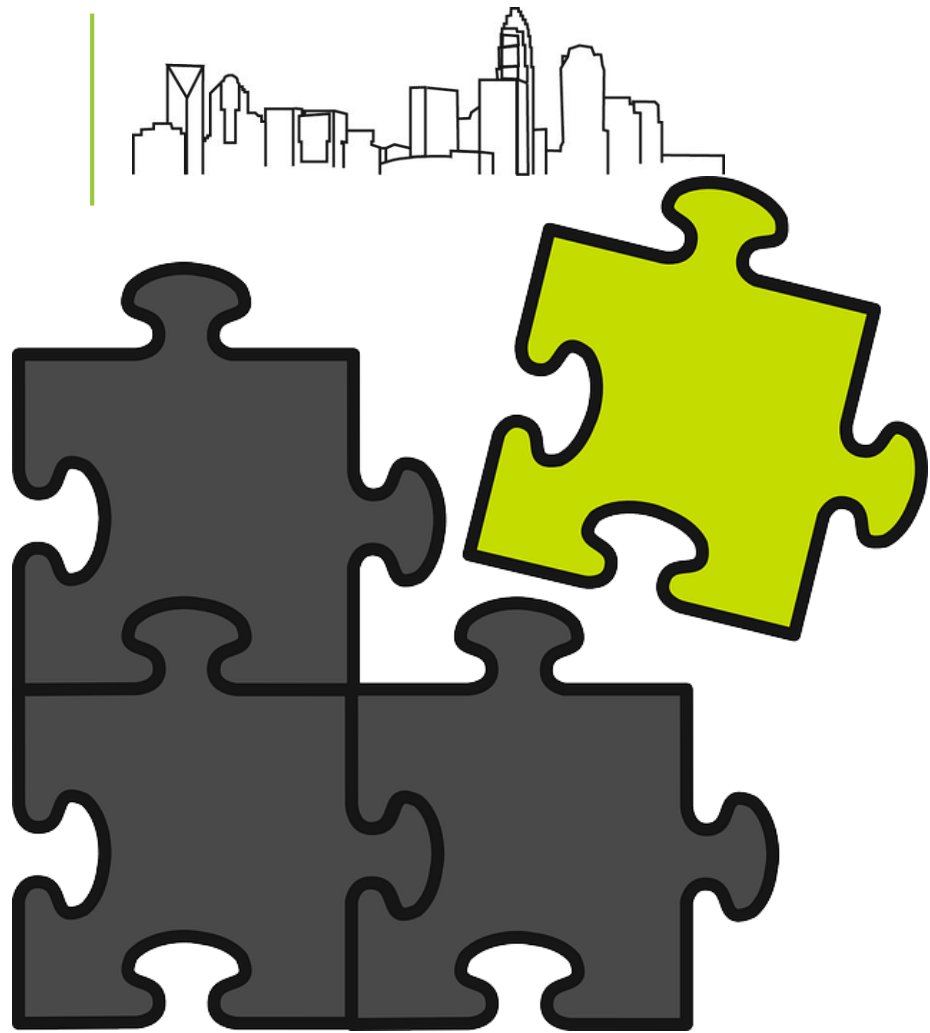
5. **Differentiated instruction** – it may be frustrating for some students to know and see that everyone is not doing the same thing
6. **Flexible Walls** – sound and movement can be challenging and somewhat distracting for students who may have difficulty focusing on their own



JUST RIGHT FIT

- 7. Limited Green Space** – recess and free play looks different for our students because we do not have a large playground space yet; occasionally groups may walk to First Ward Park
- 8. Comfort with Walking Trips** – our students, faculty, and volunteers walk in/around Uptown weekly; we do everything we can to ensure their safety on these trips

JUST RIGHT FIT



- 9. Start Up Organization** – we are constantly learning and making improvements to our school processes and communication; we appreciate constructive feedback from parents, but recognize that adjusting to changes may be difficult for some families
- 10. Encourage Volunteering** – we want ALL families to engage with us and believe that parents/guardians should volunteer in ways that makes sense for your family



WHAT'S NEXT?

- Official application period is **January 4th – February 26th**:
 - **Sibling Policy** – we offer admissions preference to siblings of students currently enrolled, **if seats are available**
 - Separate Application from CMS Magnet Schools
 - Lottery held on March 14th



QUESTIONS?

Other Questions?

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