

Innovation through Classical Education

Erika Donalds, CEO Janine Swearingin, Director of Academics Dr. David Withun, Head of School - Jacksonville Classical Academy



CHARTER SCHOOLS





Optima's Mission

- To make classical education available to every family.
- To support the establishment and expansion of **superior quality schools of choice**.

• To provide the **maximum time and resources** to the trusted **academic professionals** who are doing the most important work in education – directly meeting the needs of students.



School Mission

Our mission is to train the minds and improve the hearts of young people through a classical education in the liberal arts and sciences, with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue.



School Pledge

I will learn the True.

I will do the Good.

I will love the Beautiful.



Moral character and civic virtue: formation of souls/minds and development of citizenship

Joy and wonder

Love of learning for its own sake

Deep knowledge and analysis of literary works and original source documents

The teaching of the discipline of logic and use of Socratic discussion

Use of materials and pedagogy that have stood the test of time



Train the Minds: Our Curriculum

• Literacy Essentials: explicit phonics instruction • Core Knowledge: content-rich subject areas Singapore Math: conceptual understandings • Great Books: "The best that has been thought and said"



Improve the Hearts: Our Culture

 Consistent routines and procedures form the foundation for learning School-positive attitudes are encouraged High expectations for behavior and academics



Pillars of Virtue

- •Courage
- Honesty
- Perseverance
- •Self-government
- •Service
- Courtesy
- Responsibility



Q&A