

# Spectrum Charter School – Educating students for success in a changing world

By Spectrum Charter School

**S**pectrum Charter School is built on the ideals that every student should receive a strong education and support so that they can reach their greatest potential.

Our Mission: To provide school-to-work transition in the classroom, on-site business, and community-based work sites for students aged 13-21.

Our program is structured to meet the needs of students who do not learn well in typical classroom settings due to unique cognitive, communication, and sensory challenges, including students with autism spectrum disorders.

We are the first and only independent public charter school of its kind in the Pittsburgh area.

At times, students arrive at Spectrum no longer learning. They arrive here having been bullied, are scared or angry. They may struggle with not only how to get a friend, but how to keep a friend. For the first 30 days, we work off of their incoming IEP, perform assessments and observations looking for possible gaps.

Students who attend Spectrum Charter School are very diverse and multicultural. Classrooms are structured to meet the learning abilities, from pre-kindergarten academics through 12th grade. Pre-college academics courses are also customized and made available through a student's IEP.


Our curriculum is aligned with the Pennsylvania Academic State Standards and includes traditional academics (science, history, math), functional (independent living skills) and transitional school-to-work academics. A typical school day for our students includes classroom learning, volunteering and working in the community, participating in yoga, social therapy, sex education, and recycling programs. We take the time to just get to know each other.

A central goal of our school is incorporating The Spectrum Pledge into our curriculum:

"I pledge to be a self-advocate who believes in my potential; to care for myself, my family, my community and our environment. I will show the quality of my character by being trustworthy, respectful and valuing the uniqueness of myself and others. I will remember that where I fail, I learn. I will be mindful and take each moment as an opportunity to grow."

Over the years, Spectrum Charter School has received many awards and acknowledgements including an Energy Star Certification over the past five years. In 2015, we were awarded the prestigious National Green Flag Award for creating a healthy and sustainable learning environment and for teaching environmental literacy. In 2017, we became a Live Well Allegheny County School partner. ■

Celebrating Education &  
Community Service Since 1999~



**CORE VALUES OF SPECTRUM**

- Self Advocating:** speak up for yourself & make good decisions about your life
- Potential Reaching:** believe in your capabilities & give only your best
- Environmentally Responsible:** be good stewards of the earth & its resources
- Community Focused:** support those around you by being a committed worker & volunteer
- Trustworthy:** show your integrity by being honest, reliable & dependable
- Respectful:** treat yourself & others with kindness
- Unique:** love your own irreplaceable self & see the beauty in others
- Mindful:** practice compassion, gratitude & awareness of each moment without judgment

Learn more at:  
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