



Why a **Red Balloon**? In Albert Lamorisse's 1956 award winning Film, **The Red Balloon** the **red balloon** befriended the lonely French boy just as the **red balloon** befriends *Our Children*

## OUR CHILDREN'S ACADEMY ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

2008-2013

### **Mission Statement:**

Our Children's Academy is dedicated to facilitating each child's maximum independence, communicative abilities, and academic skills by using innovative programs that combines an educational and medical model.

### **Purpose:**

Our Children's Academy is a Charter School started in 2006. OCA serves students birth through fifth grade that have a variety of special needs and have been identified for services through Exceptional Student Education and have a physician's prescription for occupational, physical, and/or speech language therapy.

**Duration:**

Each child older than three years old has an Individualized Education Plan. Children younger than three have a Family Service Plan. Prior to enrollment or soon after, students receive Occupational, Speech/Language and/or Physical Therapy evaluations based on their needs. The Battelle Developmental Inventory, which assesses the developmental level of infants and young children, is administered to children entering our Preschool program. After reviewing these evaluations, a determination is made about whether OCA can meet the needs of the child. OCA provides appropriate educational services along with Occupational, Speech/Language and Physical Therapy, based on the needs of the child as documented in their Individualized Education Plan/Family Service Plan.

All of the children in the kindergarten through fifth grade at Our Children's Academy must be eligible for and ESE program as determined by standardized assessments outlined in the Polk County Special Policies and Procedures. Academic assessment of Our Children is in accordance with their IEP including special testing considerations. Most of our students are currently being assessed using Alternate Assessment Procedures stated in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The alternate assessment tool used in place of SAT 10 or FCAT testing at Our Children's Academy is Brigance: The Comprehensive Inventory of Basic Skills-Revised (CIBS-R), which is used to measure pre/post academic performances for many skill areas from readiness levels through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The CIBS-R provides options for group and individual testing in academic areas of readiness, language, general knowledge, comprehension, reading, writing, and math. This test is more appropriate for the level of students currently served. If we have students who are able to participate in state wide testing, they will be assessed using the SAT 10 and or FCAT or whatever the State of Florida deems appropriate. The students' learning at OCA has a wide variety of disabilities and many have dual diagnoses.

**Demographics:**

Male	Female	Caucasian	Black/Multi	Hispanic	Free/Reduced
68%	32%	70%	14%	16%	35%

### Special Considerations:

Our Children's Academy is a school for children with documented special needs. 82% of the children in K-2 have a second disability and 50% have a third disability. These special factors make planning, educating and monitoring progress extremely challenging for the students, teachers and therapists. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act has very stringent requirements for the planning, educating and monitoring of progress for individuals with documented special needs. Our Children's Academy maintains current Individualized Education Plans/Family Service Plans for all children attending school and progress reports are sent home every four and a half weeks that report on the progress of each child toward their annual goals. If a child is not making adequate progress towards their goals, a meeting is called to discuss the concerns and a plan is discussed and implemented for reaching the goal.

### Disability

	% as primary disability
Language Impaired	22
Developmentally Delayed (through age 5, delay of 25% or more in 2 or more areas of development)	42
Educable Mentally Handicapped (IQ between 70-50)	6
Speech Impaired	
Autism	12
Other Health Impaired	0
Trainable Mentally Handicapped (IQ less than 50)	2
Orthopedic Impaired	6
Visually Impaired	2
Emotionally Handicapped	4
Specific Learning Disability	4

\*Secondary disability is not longer available from county data base. However, many of our children have multiple educational diagnoses (TMH or EMH with speech impaired or with visual impairment). Preschool children are primarily categorized as developmental delay (DD). The DD label does not provide a clear picture of the range of disabilities served in the OCA preschool population.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### **Educational Program Success:**

**GOAL 1: K-2 students are expected to make progress in academic subjects**

***Objective 1: Pre-K and participatory students will improve overall development (initiative, social relations, creative representation, movement and music, language & literature, science & math) through the help of specially trained therapists and educators.***

#### Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 65% of Our Children's Academy Pre-K and participatory students who complete the pre and post assessments in Pre-K will increase a minimum of .25% annually as documented by the Child Observation Record (COR).

2007-2008 Baseline: 91% of Pre-K and participatory students who completed the pre and post assessments in Pre-K increased a minimum of .25% overall annually as documented by the Child Observation Record (COR).

Source: As reported by the COR.

***Objective 2: K-2 Students at Our Children's Academy will maintain or improve their academic performance.***

#### Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 80% of students in grades Kg through 2 who were enrolled during both Oct and Feb FTE periods will maintain or increase the current assessment level on the Brigance Inventory of Basic Skills (green) from the test given at the beginning of the year (or upon enrollment) to the test given at the end of each year.

2007-2008 Baseline: 100% of students in grades Kg-2 maintained or increased the current assessment level on the Brigance (green).

Source: As reported by the Brigance.

***Objective 3: Students at Our Children's Academy in grades 3-5 will demonstrate proficiency on the Florida Alternate Assessment or FCAT in Reading.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 75% of Our Children's Academy students in grades 3-5 will demonstrate proficiency on the Florida Alternate Assessment or FCAT in Reading.

2008-2009 Baseline: Baseline will be established in 2008-2009 as this is the first year that OCA has served these grade levels.

Source: As reported by School Grades Report or as calculated by PCSB AAE Department.

***Objective 4: Students at Our Children's Academy in grades 3-5 will demonstrate proficiency in Math.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 75% of Our Children's Academy students in grades 3-5 will demonstrate proficiency on the Florida Alternate Assessment or FCAT in Math.

2008-2009 Baseline: Baseline will be established in 2008-2009 as this is the first year that OCA has served these grade levels.

Source: As reported by School Grades Report or as calculated by PCSB AAE Department.

***Objective 5: Students at Our Children's Academy in 4<sup>th</sup> grade will demonstrate proficiency in Writing.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 75% of students in grade 4 who are enrolled during both Oct and Feb FTE periods who participate in the FCAT Writes or Florida Alternate Assessment for Writing will score 3.0 or higher as measured on FCAT Writes or the Florida Alternate Assessment for Writing.

2008-2009 Baseline: Baseline will be established in 2008-2009 as this is the first year that OCA has served these grade levels.

Source: As reported by the INDV File per PCSB AAE Department.

***Objective 6: Students at Our Children's Academy in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will demonstrate proficiency in Science.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 50% of students in grade 5 who are enrolled during both Oct and Feb FTE periods who participate in the FCAT Science or the Florida Alternate Assessment for Science will demonstrate proficiency as measured on FCAT Science for the Florida Alternate Assessment for Science.

2008-2009 Baseline: Baseline will be established in 2008-2009 as this is the first year that OCA has served these grade levels.

Source: As reported by School Grades Report or as calculated by PCSB AAE Department.

**Educational Program Success:**

**Comparative Measures**

**Goal 2: K-5 Students will be assessed using comparative assessments and criterion referenced assessments at the beginning and end of the academic year that are individually designed by a professional team of teachers, therapists and other professionals for the purpose of determining the child's present levels on areas of weakness and designing Individualized Goals and Objectives for the IEP.**

***Objective 1: Students at Our Children's Academy will improve their skills in the area of self help, communication, and behavior.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 85% of students at Our Children's Academy will each meet 75% or higher of their own IEP goals/objectives in the area of social emotional, communication, and independent function, as documented at the IEP annual review.

2007-2008 Baseline: 83% of students met 75% or higher of the each student's own IEP goals/objectives as documented at the IEP annual review.

Source: As per each student's IEP documents/record.

**Organizational Viability:**

**Goal 3: OCA will operate with sound financial principles and essential governance standards to efficiently operate the School.**

**Board of Trustees**

***Objective 1: The Board of Trustees for Our Children's Academy will remain active in the oversight of the organization's operation.***

Indicators of Progress:

The Board members of Our Children's Academy will review the financials, academic progress of students and progress towards goals in the approved accountability plan regularly as documented by the board meeting minutes for a minimum of 10 board meetings annually with a quorum present at each meeting.

2007-2008 Baseline: Board members of Our Children's Academy reviewed the financials and minutes monthly for a minimum of 10 board meetings as documented by the board meeting minutes.

Source: Board Meeting minutes.

***Objective 2: Our Children's Academy will share the Program Eval. (Accountability Plan) outcome measures with the Board members.***

Indicators of Progress:

Reports, documenting outcomes measured quarterly, will be presented for review to the Board each year and recommended action plans will be developed if needed as documented by Board meeting minutes.

2007-2008 Baseline: Outcome measures were shared with Board members through the tabloid.

Source: Board meeting minutes.

**OCA Staff**

***Objective 3: Our Children's Academy will share the Program Evaluation (Accountability Plan) outcome measures with the staff of OCA.***

Indicators of Progress:

Accountability Plan, interim reports, documenting outcomes, will be presented for review at OCA staff meetings each year and recommended action plans will be devised if needed as documented by staff meeting minutes.

2007-2008 Baseline: Staff meets a minimum of once/mo. Results were shared with staff.

Source: Staff meeting minutes.

**Other Community Stakeholders**

***Objective 4: Our Children's Academy will share the Program Evaluation (Accountability Plan) outcome measures with the community stakeholders.***

Indicators of Progress:

An Accountability annual report, documenting outcomes, will be presented for informational purposes annually on the OCA website and/or documented by printout

2007-2008 Baseline: Outcome measures were shared with community stakeholders in a printed Tabloid circulated full county in the Ledger.

Source: Printout of website.

**Budget**

***Objective 5: Our Children's Academy's financial planning will provide for a reserve to protect the financial stability of the organization from unplanned expenses.***

Indicators of Progress:

OCA will have a 3% unrestricted/unreserved fund balance of annual FEFP dollars as documented by the annual Independent Financial Audit.

2007-2008 Baseline: OCA had 3% unrestricted/unreserved fund balance of annual FEFP dollars as of June 2008 year end financial statement.

Source: Annual Independent Financial Audit

**Unique Program: All Children/Parents/Community Belong**

**Goal 1: Our Children will improve and develop skills needed to become more independent and allow Our Children to enjoy the experiences derived from interacting with other children, their family members, and their community.**

**Therapy**

***Objective 1: Pre-K Students at Our Children's Academy will show improvement in therapy.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 72% of the Pre-K students will meet 80% of their physical rehab therapy IEP goals in the therapy they receive (PT,OT, SLP) as documented in the child's IEP and/or therapy records.

2007-2008 Baseline: 72% of met 80% improvement in the therapy they received (PT, OT, and SLP) as documented in child's IEP and/or therapy records.

Source: IEP and/or therapy records.

**Parent Involvement**

***Objective 2: Parents of students attending Our Children's Academy will attend and participate in their child's annual review, reevaluation and/or parent conferences.***

Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 85% of parents of students attending Our Children's Academy will participate in their child's initial IEP, annual review, reevaluation conference, either in person or in writing as documented on the IEP/conference data base log.

2007-2008 Baseline: 90% of parents of students participated in their child's initial staffing, annual review, or reevaluation conference either in person or in writing

Source: IEP/conference data base log

### **Stakeholder Satisfaction**

OCA recognizes the importance of stakeholder satisfaction with the overall performance of the organization. The two main stakeholder satisfaction opinions being documented during the 2007-08 school year will be

- the staff which includes teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, contracted therapists, contracted psychologist, contracted medical professionals, ESE liaisons, lead teachers and any other staff member working at the school, and
- the parents and/or guardians

**Goal 1: Staff and parents will judge the overall performance of the organization to be satisfactory and rank their level of satisfaction as satisfied. Parents will indicate whether they would refer another child to the school.**

#### **Staff**

***Objective 1: Staff of Our Children's Academy will rate the organization as a quality program.***

#### Indicators of Progress:

Annually, the OCA staff will rate the overall quality of the organization at least a 6 out of 8 with 8 being top score when averaging all staff results received on the OCA Staff Satisfaction Survey.

2007-2008 Baseline: Staff rated the overall quality of the organization as a 6.

Source: OCA Staff Satisfaction Annual Survey

#### **Parents**

***Objective 2: Parents of students attending Our Children's Academy will recommend Our Children's Academy to others.***

#### Indicators of Progress:

Annually, 80% of parents will answer "yes" to the question, "Would you recommend Our Children's Academy to others?"

2007-2008 Baseline: 100% of the parents surveyed answered "yes" to the question, "would you recommend OCA to others?"

Source: OCA Parent Annual Survey