

# Why Parents in Santa Clarita Need Eagle Collegiate Academy

## Families Share Why They Want the Eagle Collegiate Academy Choice!

In their own words:

### The Michaels

Our family believes that we should have the opportunity to choose what education and curriculum our son and daughter should receive. No two children are the same and learning should fit the child's style of learning. Having an opportunity to choose creative approaches to learning and innovative teaching strategies that meet students' learning styles is our desire for our children.

We have home schooled our children because we are very hands on with our children's education. We have conducted our research and have also attended Eagle Collegiate Academy informational sessions. Hence, we can make a more informed decision about which learning environment best suits our children and family's needs. Eagle Collegiate Academy will assist and develop the unique needs and standards that have been established in our home's approach to teaching our children. We believe in choice. Our choice for our children is Eagle Collegiate Academy. We support one hundred percent for Eagle Collegiate Academy to open in our community.



### The Sanabrias'

We, the Sanabria family, are one of the original founding families of Eagle Collegiate Academy. We have been passionately advocating for Eagle Collegiate Academy to open its doors for students who are looking for options to their education. Our family believes that the plan to have preschool to 12th grade is a great idea for students and parents because all the children will be on one site and the parents,

especially working parents, would not have to run from school to school to drop off and pick up their children. We also like the before and after school program so that our children can continue to learn in a safe environment until picked up. Knowing that all the teachers and school leaders are required to be trained by the International Baccalaureate Organization is very comforting to us.



#### The Sanchez's

Our family likes the idea that our children will be able to go to the same school from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade so that they will be taught by teachers and a community that would have known them from small babies to when they graduate from high school. Such a small family school environment is what we want for our children. We believe that it is a great benefit for working parents to take all their children where they know they are getting a well-rounded education in a safe environment. We enthusiastically plead that ECA is imperative for our children. Please don't stop this unique opportunity for our children and families.



### The Hakims'

Our story goes like this. We moved to the Santa Clarita Valley since it was a great community with a lot of parks and good schools. Our son started Kindergarten at our local school. It was a great school but not a great school for our child. We were blessed to have a charter school open in our community. This school had the perfect combination of project based learning and traditional teaching models. This format was a great fit for our oldest child. Our second child wanted to stay at our neighborhood school with her friends, and that was a great CHOICE for her. In our family, we have learned to value school choice. One size does not fit all. Eagle Collegiate Academy is the right choice for our family and will be the only seat-based choice in our immediate community.



The City of Santa Clarita, the third-largest city in Los Angeles County, is large, but when it comes to public school choices, it is small. Santa Clarita families are desperate for public school choice options. As a result, families and community members continue to passionately support the establishment of Eagle Collegiate Academy, a proposed Pre-Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory International Baccalaureate World School. Eagle Collegiate Academy will be the only PreK to 12<sup>th</sup> grade seat-based charter school serving the Santa Clarita Valley.

Families are drawn to its unique proposed offerings of not only a renowned college preparatory program, but also to its plans to offer “a series of intensive interventions that are focused on quickly accelerating the learning of scholars who are performing far below grade level”, its vertical articulation of one site for children in different grade bands, its offer of Korean and Spanish languages, and its before and after school program. The number of families waiting for Eagle Collegiate Academy to open its doors have exceeded the number that ECA proposes to open with.

Eagle Collegiate Academy families are a diverse set of families brought together to create Eagle Collegiate Academy (ECA) in Santa Clarita, the third largest city in Los Angeles County. We are families who want a strong community school where students can attend continuously from PreK-12 and we want the rigor and responsiveness of an IB Program. Eagle Collegiate Academy, a proposed Pre-Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory International Baccalaureate World School will be the only PreK to 12<sup>th</sup> grade seat-based charter school serving the Santa Clarita Valley.

As one of our founding families the Sanabrias stated, “Our family believes that the plan to have preschool to 12th grade is a great idea for students and parents because all the children will be on one site and the parents, especially working parents, would not have to run from school to school to drop off and pick up their children. Knowing that all the teachers and school leaders are required to be trained by the International Baccalaureate Organization is very comforting to us.”

The fight for education choice impacts children and their families. Lately this choice has been overtaken by politics while forgetting the needs of families and children to choose the best possible education for themselves. A poignant African proverb says that when two elephants fight, it is the grass that gets trampled.



Right now, in Santa Clarita, our families are being trampled as pawns in the politics over charter schools.

Families seek education that meets their needs whether it is in the traditional public school, private school, home school or charter school environment. We have two public school sectors in California, that will continue to exist and can coexist productively, meeting the differing needs of differing families. Families and students should never be pitted against one another because of their education choice. Many families in the Santa Clarita Valley have chosen Eagle Collegiate Academy as the school for their children and have been waiting for ECA to open its doors because it meets their needs and because **One size does not fit all!**