

BARNEY CHARTER SCHOOL INITIATIVE

Ten Key Characteristics

Cincinnati Classical Academy will apply to join the many charter schools in the country that are part of Hillsdale College's Barney Charter School Initiative. The Barney Charter School Initiative is an ambitious program to begin and sustain classical charter schools across America.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF AFFILIATION WITH HILLSDALE?

Hillsdale's Barney Charter School Initiative provides a robust, effective, and time-tested K-12 curriculum. Their experts also provide guidance and oversight in school governance, leadership, instruction, and culture. This includes ongoing professional development, beginning with two weeks of intensive teacher training before the school opening. Hillsdale College does not charge a fee nor seek reimbursement from the schools it supports.

Hillsdale College is a stout defender of the liberal arts and is a pioneer in the re-emergence of the classical education model. Hillsdale was the first American college to prohibit discrimination based on race, religion, or sex in its charter, and was the second college in the nation to grant four-year liberal arts degrees to women.

Cincinnati Classical Academy will adhere to the following **10 key characteristics** of a Hillsdale-affiliated BCSI school:

1. The centrality of the Western tradition in the study of history, literature, philosophy, and fine arts;
2. A rich and recurring examination of the American literary, moral, philosophical, political, and historical traditions;
3. The use of explicit phonics instruction leading to reading fluency, and the use of explicit grammar instruction leading to English language mastery;
4. The teaching of Latin;
5. The acknowledgment of objective standards of correctness, logic, beauty, weightiness, and truth intrinsic to the liberal arts;
6. A school culture demanding moral virtue, decorum, respect, discipline, and studiousness among the students and faculty;
7. A curriculum that is content-rich, balanced and strong across the four core disciplines of math, science, literature, and history;
8. A faculty where well-educated and articulate teachers explicitly convey real knowledge to students using traditional teaching methods rather than using so-called "student-centered learning" methods;
9. A school that uses technology effectively but without diminishing the faculty leadership that is crucial to academic achievement; and
10. A school with a plan to serve grades K through 12, with fewer grades in the initial year and additional grades added annually

Visit the Barney Charter School Initiative website below for a deeper understanding of BCSI's mission.
<https://www.hillsdale.edu/educational-outreach/barney-charter-school-initiative>



CINCINNATI
CLASSICAL ACADEMY