believe in Yourself...

believe in education...

# believe in QDA.



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OHIO'S PREMIER E-SCHOOL 2012-2013 Parent Informational Booklet and 2011-2012 Annual Report

## letter from the superintendent...

Dear QDA Community,

In 2013, QDA will be celebrating 10 years of providing high quality, tuition free education to students and parents in grades K-12 throughout Ohio. QDA's success has been built on the belief that all students can excel if given the opportunity to explore their strengths, both academically and personally. Students and parents are supported by QDA by being provided with certified curriculum, teachers, and instructional supervisors that give personalized attention to each child.

QDA students are independent thinkers and self-motivators who, with support, are in charge of their education, which prepares them for the demands of the 21st century. Over the past few years, QDA has evolved in providing diverse academic programs that meet the individual needs of the student. In addition, QDA provides students the opportunity to participate in educational field trips, join club activities, and receive tutoring.

Our goal at QDA is to provide every student a high quality education that will open the doors for a better future.

Sincerely, Dr. Richard Varrati Superintendent & CEO

Across the United States, an approximate 250,000 students have gone fully digital, eschewing traditional brick and mortar schools for the cyber option. According to the Evergreen Education Group, which works primarily with cyber institutions, this reflects a 40% rise in student enrollment over the last three years.

For the team at QDA, growth in education isn't just one of the mission statements, it's a physical reality. Founded in 2003, the increasing interest in the world of cyber education has motivated QDA to continually adapt to meet the tide of students and families who are turning to the digital realm as an alternative to brick and mortar institutions. What began as a small, single office operation in New Philadelphia, OH, has expanded to multiple locations across the state. With offices in Steubenville and East Liverpool, and a team constantly hosting enrollment seminars across the state, QDA has increased their presence on the scene to make sure potential students know that they have options in choosing their education.

The principles of the school, as instituted by its CEO, Dr. Richard Varrati, suggest that a student's school should be "made of choices, not bricks." To this end, QDA constantly seeks to provide new opportunities to those enrolled,

providing individual attention that may not always be available in the shuffle of a classroom. Whereas a student at a brick and mortar school has a group of classmates with which to vie for attention, each individual enrolled in QDA is assigned an Instructional Supervisor (otherwise referred to as an "IS") that serves as a main point of contact for the student and their family. The IS handles all school related issues for the students, and keeps in regular contact to ensure success in their studies. Furthermore, each student's education is tailor-made for the individual. QDA is fully aware that what helps one person learn may not work for the next, and so forth, so rather than have one strict set of curriculum; the company has invested in providing options. Offering a selection of cutting edge, state-approved curriculum, QDA is able to create a personalized learning path that fits the needs of the individual.

With the ever-rising number of students turning to cyber education, QDA has more than proven it is ready to meet the challenges of the shifting landscape and the needs of those enrolled. QDA's growth mirrors that of the changing world, and reflects the need for students to be able to choose their own education and find their own way to success. ACT Prep – QDA offered a new program this year to assist college preparatory students in their study for the ACT (College Entrance Test).

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upot's

Take College Courses – College courses are now being offered through Jefferson Technical College. QDA students may incorporate college credit, along with high school curriculum, to advance their educational careers. Students must qualify academically for this opportunity, which is free to students who complete the courses successfully. Tutoring Program Expanded – Students in need of some extra assistance in math or science may now incorporate some one-on-one study time with a member of the QDA tutor team.

## is qda what you are looking for? why qda?

college

#### The World is Changing - Education is Evolving

Did you know that many states now require every student to take at least one online course to earn a high school diploma. Among other things, this new stipulation seeks to ensure that these students will be prepared for the digital learning opportunities they are apt to encounter in college and career-training programs in the future.

oct

tutoring

## tech update

As QDA continues to expand over the State of Ohio, the technology department is committed to keeping our students connected to the latest cutting edge technology. Over the past year, QDA has implemented various network infrastructure changes to improve the efficiency and reliability of our network resources. In October 2011, we launched our new website and it has quickly become the centralized location for prospective and current students to find the latest news and information. To increase performance, QDA has increased its New Philadelphia office Internet bandwidth each year for the past two years. These increases have allowed our office to ensure frequent off-site backups, fast loading web pages and a reliable Voice over IP System. For the upcoming school year, the technology department will be offering students access to multiple programs through the use of virtualized applications. Students will be able to access a wide range of programs like Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Office 2010 from any device that can access the Internet. Students will no longer be limited by the system resources of their computer system or operating system. By simply accessing a secure web page, students will have instant access to wide range of resources without having to install (or purchase) any software.

Students and prospective students are encouraged to visit our website for additional information on virtual applications.

## **Field Trips**

Educational Field Experiences for the 2011-12 school year were planned by Instructional Supervisor, Darla Kish. As part of the curriculum, QDA parents and students were able to attend all Kent State University-Tuscarawas fine arts performances at the Performing Arts Center: The World of Zobapago, Sylvester & the Magic Pebble, Freedom Bound, John Tartaglia's ImaginOcean, Toying with Science, and the Rainforest Reptile Shows.

Historic Field trips were scheduled for Roscoe Village, and the Byesville Scenic Railway, where students learned about the heritage and culture of coal mining in Ohio.

Educational trips to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium were well-attended. Students ended the year by taking part in the Akron Aeros Education Day.

Plans are being made for the upcoming school year to visit COSI and returning to Pittsburgh to tour the Natural History and Art Museum. Fine Arts programing will continue through Kent State University Performing Arts Center performances for the 2012-13 season.



EDOM TO





and fun too!

### beyond the classroom

## THE BLACKWELL GIRLS *EKCELI*

#### **Student Profile**

The Blackwell girls, Nahlana and Amber, are two sisters who are thriving students enrolled in QDA. Their Instructional Supervisor, Mrs. Susan Banker had these words to say about her students, "These young ladies have an exceptional work schedule and are able to incorporate their extracurricular activities and their school work. Amber and Nahlana are both doing very well and receive excellent grades. Nahlana, an 8th grader, has been nominated and accepted into the National Junior Honor Society. Amber, who is in 10th grade, is being challenged by taking some tough courses and is excelling in her classes. Amber is currently taking Chinese along with her other coursework. Both girls enjoy being able to do their work at their own pace and in their own time. They are the epitome of successful students. working in an online environment."



#### We asked the students to share a little about their experience with QDA:

What things do you like about QDA, or what works well for you?

#### Amber:

We like the flexibility of QDA, and we like to be able to work at our own pace. We can also work in the comfort of our own home in a relaxed atmosphere and take breaks when we need to do that. Also, we have more time available to do other things, because we don't have to waste so much time with a long bus ride, study halls, etc.

#### Nahlana:

The teachers are very nice, and the program is well organized. I've enjoyed the fact that the teachers for a course are understanding and listen to what I am trying to say. The teacher will also take the time to fully explain when I am having difficulty understanding. We can schedule the studies at any time to give us the opportunity to take a field trip without all the crowds.

#### Mrs. Blackwell:

We love the fact that we receive the state mandated curriculum without facing all the drama and nonsense that they face at a regular brick and mortar school.

#### Mr. Blackwell:

We have the benefit of knowing what our kids are doing with them being at home. We can check on their progress and keep track of their work.



The QDA Chapter of the National Junior and Senior Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on May 19th at Quaker Digital Academy.

QDA is proud to announce the following students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society:

-m-

Virginia Johnson Hope Bergsma Hannah Wright Nahlana Blackwell

The following students were inducted into the National High School Honor Society:

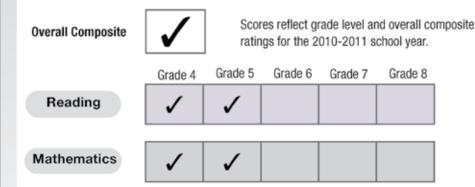
-m--

ALEXANDER ALLEN JUSTIN DORSEY

## **QDA** Assessment Over Time

All Students in the school for a full academic year are included in the results.

## Value-Added Measure



Each school year, school districts throughout the State of Ohio compile a report to be distributed to the parents of children attending their school. This report is available to the public and is available on-line. QDA complies with all state and district requirements as outlined by the Ohio Department of Education through the Department of Community Schools. QDA is sponsored by the New Philadelphia City Schools.

08-09 09-10

Science

10-11

85.2 80.3

Social Studies

\*Data

available

of printing.

at time

Note: Value-Added results are computed only for buildings that include students in grades 4 through 8.



Your school's Value-Added rating represents the progress your school has made with its students since last school year. In contrast, achievement scores represent students' performance at a point in time. A score of "Above" indicates greater than one year of

progress has been achieved; "Met" indicates one year of progress has been achieved; "Below" indicates less than one year of progress has been achieved. Value-Added results are computed only for buildings that include sufficient testing data for students in any grade 4 through 8.

7th Grade Achievement

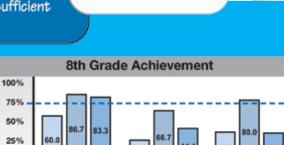
83.5

08-09 09-10 10-1

Mathematics

09-10 10-1

Reading



30.0

Mathematics

85.2

Science

Legend

Above

Met

Below

Expected Growth

Expected Growth

Expected Growth

#### State Indicators

<mark>.</mark>9100%

Standard 50%

State

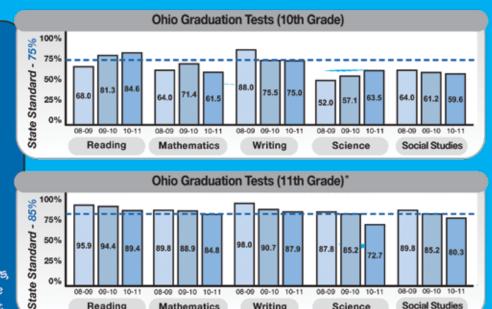
75%

25%

0%

The State

Indicators are based on state assessments, as well as on attendance and araduation rates. To earn an indicator for Achievement or Graduation Tests, at least 75% of students must reach proficient or above for the given assessment. For the 11th grade Ohio Graduation Tests indicators, a cumulative 85% passage rate for each assessment is required.



Writing

Reading

#### 84 5 25% 0% 08-09 09-10 08-09 09-10 10-11 08-09 09-10

Mathematics

Reading

2

State Standard -

0%

75.0

## digital education could be right for you... RIGOROUS but *flexible*.

## qda enrollment projections

03-04	15	
04-05	40	
05-06	128	
06-07	162	
07-08	225	
08-09	290	
09-10	397	
10-11	489	
11-12	525	
12-13	599	
13-1 <mark>4</mark>	615	
14-1 <mark>5</mark>	700	
<b>15-1</b> 6	725	
16-17	825	

Digital education permits students to learn any time of day, during any time of year, from almost any location. It allows students to work at their own pace, advancing from one level to the next when they have achieved mastery of a subject. And digital education permits students to learn from teachers who live nearby or halfway around the globe.

In short, digital learning facilitates the customization of education. It permits learning to be tailored to one's unique needs, gifts, interests, and learning style. This, obviously, bodes well for students whose needs, gifts, interests, and learning styles do not line up well with the factory school model of education today. But customized education is good for all students (and not just for academic reasons).

Digital education, then, isn't some sort of passing fad, It is an educational "game changer." As more and more students take advantage of digital's possibilities, the underlying assumptions behind the way we structure education in our society will increasingly reflect digital's advantages.

> - From The James Madison Institute

## enrollment statistics

Based on an Average

RACE	TOTAL
Asian or Pacific Islander	1
Black, Non-Hispanic	14
Hispanic	0
American Indian or Alaskan Native	5
Multiracial	9
White, Non-Hispanic	431

2010-11 Economically Disadvantaged

62.7%

95.6%

Attendance Rate for the 2010-11 School Year SCHOOL DISTRICT RATING FOR 2010-11 EXCELLENT WITH DISTINCTION

ODA RATING CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

## Announcing THE CLASS OF 2012.

QDA is proud of each and every hard-working member of the Class of 2012.

> "Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail" - Ralph Waldo Emerson

SABRINA ANN ADAMS NATHANIEL ALAN ARCHER **ALEXANDRIA ELAINE AUTERY** ELIZABETH MARIAH BEAM ADAM RAY BELL **ALEXIS MARIE BURKETT** HALEY SUE BURT SARAH T. KATHLEEN CAMPBELL DAVID CURTIS CARLIN MCKADE ANTHONY CARPENTER SCOTT MICHAEL CAUGHEY COREY DANIEL CONTINI CLARISSA KAY COOLEY NICKOLAS JACOB DALRYMPLE FRANCES ROSE DEMUTH JANIE KATHLEEN DEVORE WILLIAM ANDREW EBEY JOSHUA EUGENE ENDRES AMANDA MIKELLE FRANDSON NATHANIEL ADAM FRAZIER DUSTIN GREGORY FULLERTON MATTHEW CAIN GIBBS KATLYN MICHELLE HANCOCK JADE AARON HARDING TIFFANY SHEA LYNN HARLAND

**QDA has Graduated 266 Students** 

LANDON MICHAEL HARRIS LOGAN DANIEL HERSHBERGER ALYSSA JADE HIMES WHITNEY LYN HOLPKINS MICAIAH JOB HORVATH BRANDOŃ JOHN HUNT ZACHARY DAVID IMMEL JOSIAH DAVID KARN FELICIA RAE KERN DANIELLE MARIE KUTSCHER SEBASTIAN MYKEL MCCOMB LYDIA ROSE MCFARLAND JOSHUA STORM MCNAMARA MELANIE NICOLE MEESE ALAN JAMES MONTGOMERY BRITTANY NICOLE PHELPS ERICA LEEANN ROBILLARD CHELSEA LYNN ROE JACOB DANIEL SABO DUSTIN ROY SCHOENFELD AUBRYANA RENEE SENTER SHILO SAMANTHA SINNETT SARA EMILY SNYDER TONYA SUE LYNN SPROUL MICHAEL WILLIAM STETSON NAOMI VASQUEZ BRANDON THOMAS WALLER PATRICIA ELAINE WILLIS BRANDI ELIZABETH WILSON AUSTIN RAYMOND YOUNG

### Accept **No Limits**

**Kindergarten** through Graduation.. and beyond!

To learn more about the educational opportunity and procedures necessary to enroll in QDA, visit our website at www.go2qda.org or call 1-866-968-7032 for a personal appointment.



SARAH CAMPBELL



HALEY BURT

SABRINA ADAMS











MATTHEW GIBBS



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