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your child will love

Julian Charter School

Growing Organically to Better Serve Students

The History of Julian Charter School

by Mike Blount

At JCS, student success has always been a top priority. Julian Charter School is a WASC-accredited, public charter school serving K-12 students in Orange, Riverside, San Diego and Imperial counties through independent study. Curriculum at JCS is designed to be flexible enough to work with parents' visions, while providing structure and support for students through personalized learning designed to draw out student strengths.

In November 1999, Julian Charter School was established to serve under-represented and underserved students in San Diego, Orange, Riverside and Imperial counties. Initially, JCS had only 400 students and no facilities.

"Once we began offering learning enrichment classes, the demand grew and parents asked for more," says Executive Director Jennifer Cauzza.

Mostly through word of mouth, the student body at JCS continued to grow. Parents were pleased with the flexibility of the school's program, but wanted another option. They wanted to oversee their child's education, but have a credentialed teacher help plan the curriculum and teach in a classroom environment two to three days a week. So, JCS created the Academy program, which has been a success.

"When parents become partners in the educational process, they are watching their child learn to be an independent, self-directed learner," Cauzza says. "That's the goal of all parents: to inspire their child's love of learning and watch them grow!"

Today, JCS serves 2,600 students in San Diego, Riverside, Orange and Imperial counties. The school now offers three types of programs: the home study program, academy programs providing two to four days of in-class instruction, and the INSITE program offering 9-12 independent study with teacher support. Cauzza says this continual growth is due to the flexibility and support offered by the school.

"At JCS, we are dream-builders," Cauzza says. "We strive to build a school that meets the needs and dreams of parents, students and teachers."



PHOTO BY CARLOS PUMA

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At JCS, we are dream-builders.

Jennifer Cauzza
Julian Charter School
executive director

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Programs that Create & Inspire Lifelong Learners

Julian Charter School empowers homeschool parents to provide a personalized education to their children, while receiving the support of credentialed teachers, curriculum materials and enrichment classes.

Every Step of the Way

Parent Empowered to Homeschool Child at Julian

by Mike Blount



A TEACHER'S
TAKE

The first time Shelly Cunningham heard about Julian Charter School was during a parent education class. She had no plans to homeschool her son Ian past kindergarten, but her mind changed once she participated in a reading class hosted by the school. Using the tools she learned in the class, Cunningham helped Ian learn to read at a third-grade level by the end of the school year.

“Mrs. Fazio, a credentialed teacher and reading specialist [with JCS], taught me how to teach my son to read using direct instruction,” Cunningham says. “It was one of the smartest things I’ve ever done. I knew I had to continue homeschooling.”

Even though she only intended to homeschool Ian for one year, the support she received from JCS teachers and staff encouraged her to keep going. Cunningham says she would have never been able to continue homeschooling Ian without the support of JCS. One of the biggest supports she received came through monthly meetings she had with her educational facilitator, a credentialed

teacher who helps her plan curriculum and ensure she is meeting California Common Core State Standards.

“She was aware of our individual needs and worked with us accordingly,” Cunningham says. “After our meetings, my son and I always have a good feeling and a renewed strength.”

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We are a success story, and it wouldn’t have happened without Julian Charter School.

Shelly Cunningham
JCS parent

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Another huge asset for Cunningham and her son has been the Resource Center in Murrieta. Cunningham or her son can check out up to 50 items at a time from its large library of homeschool books,

supplies, videos and learning materials. Cunningham says she appreciates being able to check out and try different teaching materials at no cost.

Choosing to homeschool with JCS also saves Cunningham money. The school offers “educational units” each semester that Ian can use for classes like piano, art or karate.

Ian enjoys going to JCS and says his favorite classes take place on Fridays.

“My favorite classes have been American Sign Language, art class, LEGO Engineering and musical theater,” Ian says. “I have made many great friends there, too.”

Cunningham is proud of her son and looks forward to seeing him blossom even more in the coming years at JCS. She is thankful for the support she received at the school, which has allowed her to continue to homeschool her son and see him thrive academically.

“It has been the ‘life blood’ of my homeschooling,” Cunningham says. “This is why I love this school. We are a success story, and it wouldn’t have happened without Julian Charter School.”

Melissa Webb is a credentialed teacher with Julian Charter School’s home study program. She partners with parents seeking the best learning experience for their children in the home study program, teaching them about different learning techniques, instructional methods and more. It’s this partnership that allows students in the home study program at JCS to succeed and thrive academically.

“Teaching, at its very best, does far more than provide facts, or simply instruct on various topics according to set standards,” Webb says. “Teaching should inspire the individual learner to want to know more and apply their learning.”

Webb has monthly meetings with the student and parents to discuss concerns, evaluate the program and get feedback. It’s also an opportunity to share, encourage and inspire each other. Webb says parents who are willing to dedicate their time to teach their children deserve to be supported and taught successful teaching strategies.

“Homeschool, done well, allows for academic and relational opportunities no other learning environment can match,” Webb says.

For more information about the home study program, visit www.JulianCharterSchool.org.

A Tailor-Ma

Education shouldn't take a
Julian Charter School nurtures
by offering students and their f
two different types of supportiv
Take a closer look

Parental Involvement

Parents are able to be active participants in their child's education through the home study program. The program allows parents to be engaged in the lesson planning, instructing and grading.

Academic Support

Students and parents meet monthly with credentialed educational facilitators (EFs) located throughout all three counties. Together they review assignments, discuss problems or areas of concern, then together plan the next month's assignments. EFs are available regularly to remotely support both students and parents. High school students will also be assigned to a credentialed subject area teacher for core subjects. These subject teachers are available to assist with the assignment and evaluation of work as well as consultation and tutoring throughout the semester.

Freedom to Explore Interests

Students' personal interests are encouraged and incorporated into the assignments and activities.

Adaptive Learning

Parents have the flexibility to teach lessons in a way that complements their child's learning style. Students can accelerate, go deeper or take extra time, so they are always learning at the right pace for them.

Learning Centers

In Ramona, San Diego and Temecula, JCS offers K-8 Learning Centers offering enrichment classes. These one-day classes are led by JCS teachers and vendors.

Resource Center

Home study participants have access to the JCS Resource Center. Located in Murrieta, the Resource Center has nearly one million textbooks, activities, workbooks, games and DVDs to check out for educational use at home.

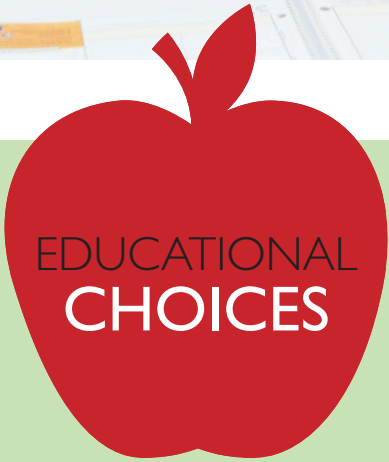
HOME STUDY

The home study program offers parents and students the gifts of time, flexibility and customization of the educational experience.



Educational Units

Every home study student receives a budgeted amount of educational units each semester that allow them to participate in extracurricular activities with participating JCS vendors at no cost to the family. By utilizing educational units, students can enrich their academic experience with activities like art, music, dance and more.



JCS is all about options. Within academies, there are numerous programs available to fit each student's unique educational needs.

nde Education

one-size-fits-all approach.
s passionate, lifelong learners
amilies educational choices in
e, resource-rich environments.
ok at the options!

ACADEMY PROGRAMS

JCS academies offer all-inclusive educational programs at various JCS locations.



PHOTOS BY CARLOS PUMA

Instructional Options

While similar to a traditional classroom experience, JCS academies offer flexibility in the amount of time students spend learning on campus.

Four-day program: In a four-day academy, students will receive most of their instruction by JCS educators on campus. On the fifth day, students work on assignments and projects independently at home.

Two- or three-day program: Similar to a college model, students in a two- or three-day program learn in a classroom environment a few days a week. In the classroom, students participate in discussions, complete class activities and work in labs. On the other days, students are able to work independently at home and have the flexibility to pursue other interests or enrichment.

Small Class Sizes

JCS students receive personal attention from teachers due to small classes. Class sizes vary depending on the academy, but the typical range is from 10 to 24 students.

Parental Involvement

Academies provide students a classroom experience, while still allowing parents to be active in their child's education. The amount of parental involvement varies depending on the academy.

Freedom to Explore Interests

With various schedule options, the academy allows students to utilize time outside of the classroom to extend their learning, pursue personal interests or take college courses.

Academic Support

Students who attend an academy receive direct educational support from the academy teachers and the academy program coordinator.

Number of Academies

11 total

2 K-5 academies
(4 DAYS/WK.)

2 6-12 academies
(2-4 DAYS/WK.)

3 9-12 academies
(2-3 DAYS/WK.)

2 K-8 academies
(4 DAYS/WK.)

2 6-8 academies
(2-3 DAYS/WK.)

Academy

Hours Spent at Home

4-day

1 day (6-8 hrs)

3-day

2 days (12-16 hrs)

2-day

3 days (18-24 hrs)

Peyton Katz was looking for something different for her high school experience, and chose JCS's Murrieta High School Academy. She's thrived at the program, finding academic success, extracurricular interests and close friendships.

PHOTO BY CARLOS PUMA

The Right Fit

High School Student Thrives at JCS Academy

by Evan Tuchinsky

You'd be hard-pressed to find a more enthusiastic supporter of JCS's Murrieta High School Academy than junior Peyton Katz.

Through her high school career, Peyton has made her mark at MHSA. She participated on the four-student Science Bowl team that traveled to Livermore. She helped publish the school yearbook and was selected for the student government Leadership Team.

Peyton also has made friends across all grade levels while taking courses that stimulate and challenge her.

All this in just three days a week, because MHSA does not hold classes on Tuesdays and Fridays, allowing students to work independently and at their own pace at home.

"The focus of the school is not to rush, so they can see your best work," Peyton explains. "The teachers know who you are, know your strengths and know how to help you. The teachers are amazing — oh my gosh, they are some of the nicest people I've ever met."

Peyton, who's 15, attended a large public high school in Temecula for three months of her freshman year. She says she "felt really out of place — more like a number in class than a student." In a sea of 3,000 faces, she only got to know a handful of people.

When a family friend described a differ-

ent experience at MHSA, Peyton lit up. She asked her parents about transferring; one of her two younger brothers was already enrolled in the JCS home study program, so they were open to the idea. Peyton arranged a visit to the school and a meeting with the program coordinator to get answers to all her questions.

"Peyton just fell in love with [the school]," says Peyton's mother, Shannon Katz. "She's been happier ever since. It really changed her whole perspective on school and made her more open with people."

Peyton found acceptance at MHSA, with none of the bullying she'd witnessed elsewhere.

"Everybody knows everyone: Teachers know their students, they know their students' families, and every student is very tight-knit with each other," Peyton says. "It's great to be socially involved with so many others."

It was this spirit of acceptance that made Peyton fall in love with the school, she says. When she toured the school as a prospective student, she met a few students who personally encouraged her to join

the school's community.

"You're absolutely welcome here," they said.

"That really set me on this school: how nice and caring they were to someone just considering their school," Peyton says. "You're never going to find friendships at a [traditional] public school like you will here."

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public school like
you will here.
Peyton Katz
JCS high school junior**

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A TEACHER'S TAKE

After 20 years away from a classroom, working as an educational consultant, Linda Hoody decided in 1995 that it was time for her to return to teaching. She found the perfect opportunity as Pine Valley Academy's science teacher.

"It's been great, because it's been a good fit for me with the tremendous flexibility and freedom to be creative and innovative that you

don't get at a lot of other, traditional schools," she says.

In both her middle school and high school classes, Hoody is not rooted to the room and students are not limited to working on paper. She champions hands-on, experiential learning — and experimentation.

"[At Pine Valley] we don't think outside the box; we burned that box a long time ago," she says.

As a result, students who have felt constrained in other environments flourish.

"Our small, intimate setting really helps us embrace that family feel, and the kids are a lot more comfortable," Hoody adds.

For more information about two- and three-day academy programs, visit www.JulianCharterSchool.org.

Flexible Learning

Parent Involved in Education With Four-day Program

by Mike Blount

Diane Byrd wanted to have an active part in her two daughters' education. But homeschooling them wasn't an option because she worked during the day. Thanks to Julian Charter School, she was able to do both.

With the four-day academy program, students attend school in a classroom setting four days a week, and then spend one day a week homeschooled by their parents. Byrd says the model allows her to go over assignments with her daughters and discuss the curriculum with their teachers.

"I interact with their teachers a lot, and they really take the time to explain what the students are learning about and listen to any concerns or observations I have," Byrd says. "The teachers have a passion for teaching that makes kids more interested in learning."

Byrd says she has seen the difference teachers at JCS make with her 12-year-old daughter Talya, who is enrolled at Phoenix Learning Center. She appreciates the teachers' focus on the whole child, including their social, emotional and academic development.

"Her teacher brought out a lot of strengths in her that were previously undiscovered in writing and leadership of her peers," Byrd says. "She's blossomed at school and [the

program has] grown her self-confidence. It's stretched her to work even harder."

The four-day program has also allowed Byrd to incorporate unique learning opportunities into the curriculum of her other daughter, 10-year-old Evelyn, a student at Innovation Centre Encinitas. For example,

one Friday she took Evelyn on a trip to the Exploratorium museum in San Francisco as part of her science curriculum. Byrd says the teachers also offer flexibility in the assignments. If there is a subject that interests a student, they will find ways to teach to that interest to keep the student engaged in learning.

"I appreciate the passion and care the teachers express," Byrd says. "For Evelyn, she had opportunities to choose from a myriad of writing assignments. She chose something she was interested in, and she was more engaged with the assignment."

In fact, Byrd says both Talya and Evelyn have been so inspired, they've even continued some of their school projects beyond the classroom. Talya and Evelyn also have time to participate in extracurricular activities like choir practice as well as work on extended projects.

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I appreciate the passion and care the teachers express.

Diane Byrd
JCS academy parent

Diane Byrd helps her daughter Evelyn, 10, with a hands-on science project. Byrd says she is actively involved in both of her daughters' education thanks to the JCS four-day academy program.

PHOTO BY CARLOS PUMA



A TEACHER'S
TAKE

Kathleen Blough is a teacher at Phoenix Learning Center in Encinitas. Blough says students enrolled in the four-day academy program are developing 21st-century skills and becoming independent learners.

"We think of the fifth day as a lab day, where students can learn off-site, work on projects and develop 21st-century skills," Blough says. "They have flexibility to do things they are

passionate about. We are giving them the tools and the motivation to become independent learners."

Blough says the four-day academy program is empowering for students because they feel like they are in the driver's seat. Parents like the program because they can work with the teachers as a team to help their child learn.

"We have open communication

with parents and discuss how to help the child's development even further," Blough says. "We try to give the parents the tools to reinforce learning at home."

For more information about four-day academy programs, visit www.JulianCharterSchool.org.

Partners in Education



Discover the right choice for your student at Julian Charter School. If you're a parent who wants to have an active part of your child's education, JCS offers two different learning programs with the flexibility and support you need to ensure academic success. Academy programs allow students to attend school for

two, three or four days a week, while you provide instruction the rest of the time. The home study program allows your child to learn independently at home. No matter which option you choose, teachers and staff are available to help you and your child every step of the way.

For more information on how to enroll your child today, please visit www.JulianCharterSchool.org.

JUST THE FAQs

What is JCS?

Julian Charter School is a tuition-free, WASC-accredited public charter school serving K-12 students through independent study.

Who can enroll?

The home study program is available to all residents of San Diego, Riverside, Orange and Imperial counties. Academy programs, offering a hybrid of in-class and at-home learning, are available to all residents in San Diego and Riverside.

Why is JCS a good choice for parents?

JCS is a great choice for parents who want to have an active part in their child's education. Teachers at JCS partner with parents to develop their child's curriculum as co-educators. Parents can provide as little as 26 percent of the instruction, or as much as 100 percent for students enrolled in the home study program.

Why is JCS a good choice for students?

Students who enjoy learning independently, creative thinking or working with their parents on projects thrive at JCS. The flexibility of the curriculum also allows for many learning opportunities that are not available at a traditional school. Many families appreciate JCS academies for their intimate campus settings. While traditional school campuses typically have between 600-800 students, JCS campuses range in size from 50 to 300 students during a school year.

How is education personalized?

Because each student learns differently, teachers use a variety of teaching methods at JCS. Students are more successful when instruction is personalized around the interests and needs of each classroom. Teachers at JCS adapt to the needs of the students.

Home Study Information and Enrollment

Admissions office

29141 Vallejo Ave.
Temecula, CA 92592
760-705-4527
admissions@juliancharterschool.org

Academy Programs Information and Enrollment

Innovation Centre Temecula (K-8)

27235 Madison Ave.
Temecula, CA 92590
951-719-2944

Murrieta Middle School Academy (6-8)

29141 Vallejo Ave.
Temecula, CA 92592
951-676-5715

Murrieta High School Academy (9-12)

29141 Vallejo Ave.
Temecula, CA 92592
951-676-5715

Innovation Centre La Mesa (K-5)

5300 Jackson Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942
619-303-4344

Alpine Academy (9-12)

1832 Alpine Blvd.
Alpine, CA 91901
619-445-1525

Pine Valley Academy (6-12)

28876 Old Highway 80
PO Box 1438
Pine Valley, CA 91962
619-473-1300

San Diego Academy of Art and Science (6-8)

6104 Adelaide Ave.
San Diego, CA 92115
619-358-9408

San Diego Academy of Performing Arts (6-12)

4579 Mission Gorge Place
San Diego, CA 92120
619-269-9478

San Diego Academy of Creative and Critical Thought (9-12)

6112 Lorca Drive
San Diego, CA 92115
619-358-9338

Innovation Centre Encinitas (K-6)

777 Santa Fe Dr.
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-230-2870

Phoenix Learning Center Encinitas (K-8)

539 Encinitas Blvd.
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-632-4989

THE RESOURCE CENTER

Julian Charter School students have access to a huge library of novels, biographies, children's books, nonfiction, science, history, games and curriculum for grades K-12 at the Resource Center located in Murrieta. The Resource Center is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for browsing, returning and checking out materials. Enrolled students can also go online and request materials to be pulled, checked out and shipped to them from the comfort of home 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

For more information on the Resource Center, visit www.JulianCharterSchool.org.

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JCS Empowering Learners With Educational Choice!