

Where everyone belongs, where everyone is challenged and supported, and where everyone makes the world a better place.

# Information Packet

[www.achievecharter.org](http://www.achievecharter.org)



# Achieve Charter Schools:

Where everyone belongs, is challenged and supported, and makes the world a better place.

## Achieve Charter School of Chico (K-8)

1494 East Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926

(530) 872-4100  
[www.achievecharter.org](http://www.achievecharter.org)

## Achieve Charter School of Paradise (K-6) (K-7 for 2024-25)

771 Elliott Road  
Paradise, CA 95969



# Message from Superintendent Casey Taylor

## Dear prospective students and parents,

Welcome to Achieve! We understand that choosing a school is one of the most important decisions you have to make. We're so glad you're taking the time to learn about our school and organization through our Achieve Information Packet. Before you dive in, I want to personally welcome you since Achieve is more than just a school; it's a place of inspiration, wonder, learning, and, above all, a cherished community for all of us.

Achieve Charter Schools is a K-8 public charter school network operating schools in Paradise and Chico, California. As a small school with a strong emphasis on mastery-based learning and parent partnerships, Achieve is committed to a joyful, supportive, and inclusive learning environment open to all backgrounds and abilities. Our purpose is to cultivate positive, world-changing humans and a place to belong, and Achieve fosters a community where children feel safe and can thrive. Achieve is a charter school, which means it is a public school that is tuition free and open to all!

Our parents are our partners. Family members get involved in the education process before the school year begins when students and teachers meet together as a team to create a personalized learning plan for each student. Together, we review strengths and areas for growth, review and set goals, and celebrate achievements.

Every year is a new beginning, a chance to have a fresh start with endless opportunities for growth and development. We're so glad you're considering our school.


Warm regards,





Superintendent

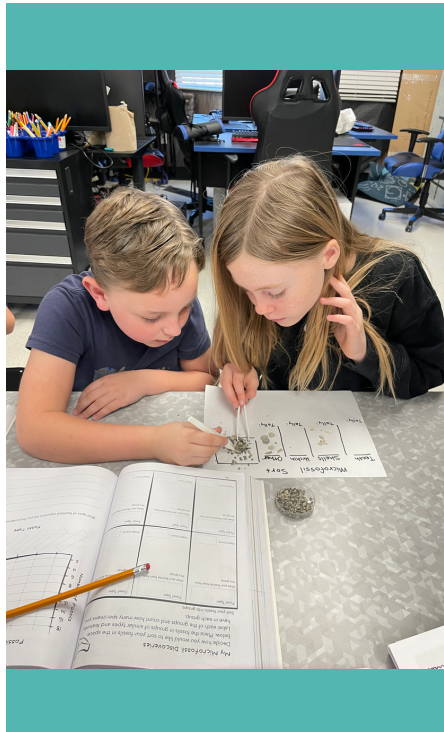
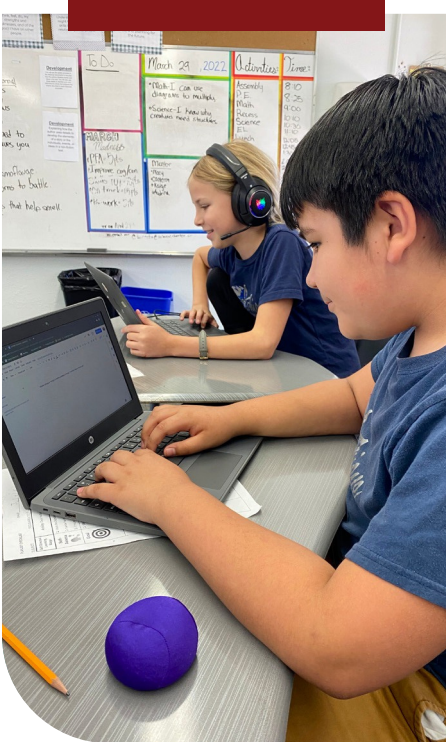
# Mission & Vision

**Achieve**  
**CHARTER SCHOOL:**

 where everyone belongs.

 where everyone is challenged and supported.

 where everyone makes the world a better place.



# What Is Achieve

## What is a Charter School?

**IT'S A TUITION-FREE, PUBLICLY-FUNDED SCHOOL. IT'S OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

Charter schools are public schools that operate independently of local school districts. Instead of following a curriculum and testing standards set by the district, charter schools can design and adjust their goals to meet their students' needs (as long as they continue to meet specific state standards, like California State Common Core Standards). Parents, teachers, and other community members can come together to design curricula they believe will serve their students best.

Charter schools operate as 501c3 non-profit organizations, are open to the public, are tuition-free, participate in state tests, and employ credentialed teachers. Under the law, charter schools cannot discriminate based on disability, race, color, gender, national origin, religion, or ancestry. At Achieve Charter Schools, we're proud to welcome everyone, regardless of student background or ability, but because of our smaller schools and class sizes, we have an enrollment cap. Once we reach capacity, students will enter a lottery to attend.

As of 2022, there are over 1,300 charter schools serving over 700,000 charter school students in California.

### Our Enrollment Process

At Achieve, we pride ourselves on having small schools and class sizes. This leads to a lottery system. Lottery applications are accepted during a publicly advertised open enrollment period, starting in January, for enrollment the following school year and the public random drawing is held in March.

### How and Why Achieve Got Started

In 2005, a group of educators, community leaders, and parents opened the Achieve Charter School of Paradise together.

It was founded with the goal of making a positive impact on our students and families not only academically, but socially and emotionally. We aim to provide our community with a quality small-school option with individual learning opportunities to help students achieve their full academic and social potential.

Learn more:

<https://www.achievecharter.org/About-Us/Our-Mission--Charter/index.html>

<https://www.achievecharter.org/About-Us/What-is-a-Charter-School/index.html>

#### ACHIEVE STARTED WITH

**100** K–5th grade students  
**9** staff members  
**1** loan from Butte Community Bank

#### BY 2010, ACHIEVE HAD GROWN TO

**212** K–8th grade students  
**20** staff members

#### AS OF 2023, ACHIEVE HAS

**2** Schools with **350** K–8th  
grade students  
**74** staff members

### Campuses

Achieve is proud to have a K-8 campus in Chico and a K-6 campus in Paradise. Our upcoming plans include adding 7th and 8th grade to our Paradise campus, reopening Achieve Charter High in Paradise, and adding TK classes to both K-8 campuses starting the 2025-2026 school year.

# At a Glance

## Student Overview

Achieve is a Charter School =  
an open-to-the-public, tuition-free school

### OUR GOAL

To provide the students and families of our communities with a quality, small school option with individual learning opportunities to help students achieve their full potential.

### WHAT SETS US APART

- Quality Programs
- Small School Environment
- Character Education
- Academic Achievement
- Strong Relationships
- Project-Based and Mastery Learning

### SCHOOL FACTS

- Founded in **2005**
- **18** years in operation
- **2** campus locations
- **3,585+** Achievers through our doors
- Expansion plans to add TK, 7th, and 8th grades to our Paradise campus, TK to our Chico campus, and reopen Achieve High in Paradise

### PROGRAMS & RECOGNITION

- STEM Lab with 3D printers
- **3** Personalized Learning Plan conferences per student, per year
- **176** morning assemblies per year
- **450** Virtue Awards yearly
- Grown Garden Program
- Art Program
- Spanish Program
- Therapy and counseling for trauma
- ELOP After School Program

### DONORS & PHILANTHROPY

- Walton Family Foundation
- College Football Playoff Foundation
- Notre Dame Alumni Association
- Silicon Schools Fund
- Paradise Rotary Foundation
- North Valley Community Foundation
- STS Education
- United Way and Food Network



## PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Chico Rotary Club
- Paradise Rotary Club
- Paradise Citizens Alliance
- Rebuild Paradise Foundation Board
- Valley Contractors Exchange Foundation Board
- Northern California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Ridge Chamber of Commerce
- Chico Chamber of Commerce
- California Charter Schools Association Board
- Charter School Association Member Council
- Butte County Charter Leaders Network
- Charter Schools Development Center
- Small School Districts Association
- Association of California School Administrators



## AWARDS

**2021—Association of California School Administrators School Leader of the Year for Butte and Glenn Counties**

**2022—California Pivotal Practice Award**

Achieve received this award for the innovative ways we handled education during the pandemic.

**2014, 2020, & 2023—Distinguished School Award**

This award recognizes schools that close the “achievement gap” between their high-income and low-income students.

**2017—Hart Vision School Leader of the Year, Northern California**

The Superintendent for Achieve Charter Schools, Casey Taylor, was awarded the Hart Vision School Leader of the Year which recognizes and honors individuals and organizations demonstrating outstanding leadership and excellence in education.

## ACCREDITATION

As required for all California Charter Schools, Achieve meets all statewide standards, conducts the student assessments required, and ensures our teachers hold a Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other documents equivalent to that which a teacher in other public schools is required to hold.

**Scan the QR code for more information!**



# What Makes Achieve Different

## Q: What makes Achieve different from other schools?

**A:** Achieve offers personalized learning with high expectations while providing academic and social-emotional support. We've got a school-wide sense of community with an emphasis on character building. There is a strong commitment to diversity and inclusivity. Our classes are small by design, which means every child is known and belongs.

## Q: What does learning at Achieve look like?

**A:** A day at Achieve starts with a daily morning assembly with songs, student recognition, announcements, reminders about expectations, and, most importantly, a focus on virtues. Students at Achieve benefit from Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs), virtues, mastery-based learning, and STEM Labs on our campuses. Our research-based instructional strategies are taught by highly qualified and trained teachers. Students are engaged and inspired, and the proof is in the pudding, with high attendance rates.

## Q: What does Achieve offer beyond the curriculum?

**A:** Achieve recognizes the need for extra support for our students and provides art-based therapy and counseling for trauma, especially for those who experienced the 2018 Camp Fire. And we think school should include fun and games, of course! This is why Achieve has dedicated sports teams like volleyball, basketball, and even Esports.

Every year Achieve offers opportunities for new adventures for our students!





# Curriculum

At Achieve, we use the “Summit Learning” curriculum.

## **Our Approach? Learners for life!**

Summit Learning was developed by Stanford University and is the learning platform and curriculum we use in our 4th–8th grade classrooms.

The method was developed by educators who have experience in diverse classrooms and understand every student learns differently. Based on decades of research, the Summit Learning program provides teachers and students with the resources they need to succeed. These include “a range of educational resources and technology tools, professional development for educators, and ongoing coaching and support for schools.”

Summit Learning allows students to learn at their own pace, and it doesn’t restrict them to one style of learning. We work with our students to determine what works best for them and ensure they thoroughly understand all of the concepts before moving on to the next skill.

There are two key components to the Summit Learning curriculum.

### **THE FIRST COMPONENT IS MASTERY-BASED LEARNING**

In this discipline, students must show a deeper level of understanding before moving from one concept to the next. This allows students to have the whole year to master concepts and cognitive skills.

### **THE SECOND COMPONENT IS MENTORSHIP**

With Summit, mentorship is a core teaching technique. Every week, we meet with each student for a mentoring session to discuss short and long-term goals, celebrate wins, work through any setbacks, and more. In addition, parents/guardians have access to the Summit Learning online platform, where grades, student projects, and teacher feedback can be viewed, which allows for direct involvement with progress through the school year.

However, our mentorship doesn’t just stop in the curriculum. We provide the best possible support system for our students, with a focus on trauma recovery and mental health. We understand that they’ve been through a lot these past few years, and we want to be there as support in every aspect.

# Testimonials

## Testimonials from Parents

“Achieve is the best choice for our children because (1) Achieve cares about parent involvement; (2) Achieve cares about each individual child and helping them succeed; (3) the class sizes are smaller; and (4) it is a family where each child is known throughout the school. There are many others, but these are the top four reasons.”

–Peter and Tamara Trulin

“If you want a school that feels more like a family, give it a try. Everyone will work to make your child have a great and comfortable learning experience.”

–Charis Rash

“An amazing school with the most caring staff you’ll ever meet. Truly focused on giving kids a wonderful education through progressive & modern learning practices that leave nothing to waste and they support every child’s unique talents.”

–Chris Frankovich

“I absolutely love love love this school 100%! All the teachers, staff, and students are so amazing, kind, friendly, and supportive of each other. Best decision I ever made was enrolling my son into Achieve Charter. I highly encourage any parent to enroll your child at Achieve Charter. Their educated staff allows the students to be taught at their level & not way above expectations. I am so pleased with their focus on each child’s PLP. Amazing school.”

– Jamie Jordan-Victorino

## Testimonials from Students & Alumni

“I really like Achieve because all of the staff members are so nice. They help you whenever you need help. It is a small environment, and I like that. The dress code helps so that you know how to dress properly.”

–Kyla S, *current Achieve student*

“I love Achieve! My experience here has been really good. I have made new friends and got to see a few friends from my old school who came to Achieve, too. I am learning a lot in all four classes, and the teachers and staff are great. They really care about you.”

–Mason J, *current Achieve student*

“I was able to meet and become friends with a lot of wonderful people, staff and students alike. My time as a student at Achieve was very enjoyable because of my teachers.”

–Eddie G, *Achieve alumnus, attended Kindergarten through 8th grade*

“I LOVE Achieve because, at my other school, I wouldn’t be able to stay with my friends moving throughout the different grades, but at Achieve, I will because there is only one class for each grade. I also like that everyone is so nice here, and they care about me.”

–Avery K, *current Achieve student*

“Achieve is a great school with a great culture. I always felt supported by the teachers and staff and will always remember the morning assemblies.”

–Parker M, *Achieve Alumni, attended Achieve kindergarten through 8th grade*

**Reach out to these current Achieve parents if you’d like to ask any specific questions!**

**Chico campus:** Veronica Salinas, 530.566.7071 (English and Spanish)

**Paradise campus:** Mishawn Delgado, 530.680.6556

# In the News



## “TECHNIQUE OF THE WEEK: BATTLE BREATHING”

The Butte County Office of Education gives Achieve Charter School a Facebook shout-out for sharing the Battle Breathing technique! Miss Tina contributed this useful video during the daily Facebook Live Morning Assemblies.



## “ACHIEVE ON 2016 HONOR ROLL AS STAR SCHOOL”

Achieve has been named a clear leader in getting students to grade level and beyond!



## “ACHIEVE CHARTER SCHOOL GIVES US ALL SOMETHING TO ASPIRE TO”

After the Camp Fire in 2018, Achieve bounced back with a new alternative Chico campus. Since then, they've provided emotional support to their students while encouraging academic excellence, resulting in a 2020 and 2023 California Distinguished School designation.



## “VIRUS FORCED SCHOOLS ONLINE, BUT MANY STUDENTS DIDN'T FOLLOW”

While many schools around the country struggled with students not showing up to online classes when schools had to close for in-person instruction, Achieve made the news by finding a way to unify their students. Principal, Steve Wright kicked off each school day with a morning assembly on Facebook.



## “ACHIEVE CHARTER SCHOOL IN CHICO JOINS CHICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT”

Achieves' petition for a five- year charter as part of Chico Unified School District was unanimously approved at a CUSD Board of Trustees Meeting in May 2021.

# Learn More about Achieve

Are you interested in learning more about Achieve? We've got many great resources for you! Spend some time on our website to learn more and follow us on social media to keep up with all the exciting things going on at Achieve.

**WEBSITE**

[achievecharter.org](http://achievecharter.org)

**BLOG**

[achievecharter.org/About-Us/Blog](http://achievecharter.org/About-Us/Blog)

**CHICO FACEBOOK**

[facebook.com/people/Achieve-Charter-School-Chico/100063571871171/](https://facebook.com/people/Achieve-Charter-School-Chico/100063571871171/)

**PARADISE FACEBOOK**

[facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068088444265](https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068088444265)



# How to Register

Open enrollment for our campuses begins in January of each year, and the lottery is held in March. Applications are accepted after the lottery and throughout the year. If classes are at full capacity, students can be placed on the waitlist. For more information, lottery applications, or to submit a question, visit the “Enrollment” tab on our website home page.

You can submit a question through our online form, or click on the enrollment application link.

**WOULD YOU PREFER TO SPEAK TO SOME OF OUR DEDICATED AND ENTHUSIASTIC STAFF?** Call the Achieve Office at **530-872-4100**, option 1 for Chico and option 2: Paradise.

