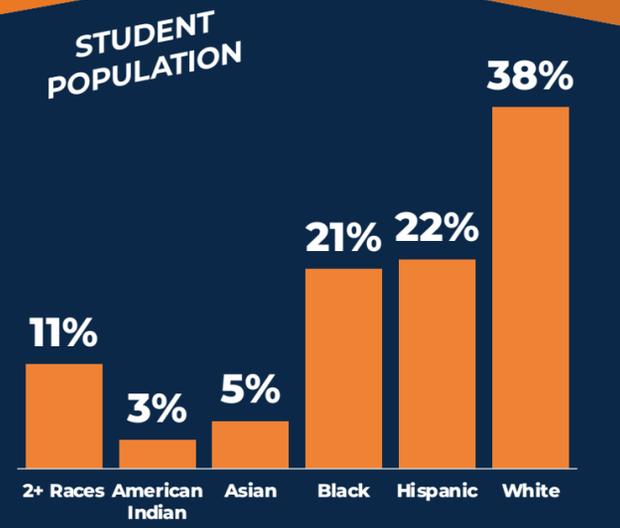
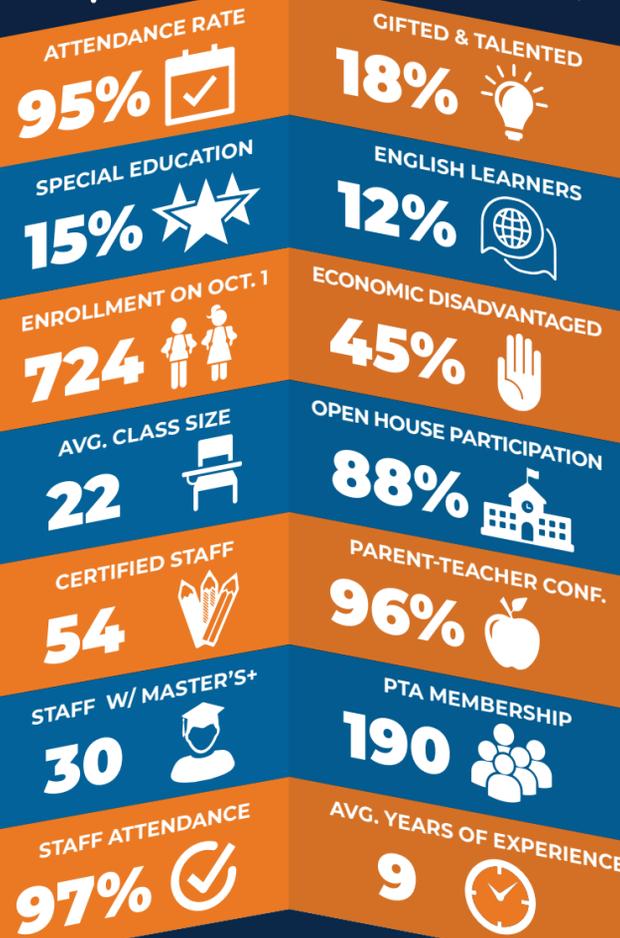


BY THE NUMBERS

2020-21



2020 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

John Rex Charter School was recognized as a 2020 National Blue Ribbon School. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The coveted National Blue Ribbon School award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.



OETT GRANT RECIPIENTS

Both John Rex Charter Elementary and John Rex Charter Middle School were recipients of the 2021 grant from Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust (OETT). This competitive grant awards schools with up to \$40,000 of education-targeted technology and \$25,000 of professional development (provided by K20 Center/OK-ACTS through the OETT grant). 121 iPads were purchased for the elementary school and an eSports program was started with funds for the middle school.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & SPONSORS



www.johnrexschool.org

#wechoosejohnrex

John Rex Charter School (JRCS) first opened its doors in August 2014. The elementary school was constructed with funds available from the MAPS for Kids program, TIF funds, and private donations. The downtown charter school is named in honor of John W. Rex, a longtime civic leader known for his advocacy for children.

In August 2018, John Rex's middle grades expansion was made possible with support from the Inasmuch Foundation. The grant exemplifies the foundation's support of high-quality education opportunities, as well as community enhancement projects. The middle school opened first at the Myriad Gardens facility, and later expanded into the McAlpine Center where grades 5-8 currently reside.

JRCS utilizes the best elements of a public-private educational partnership to provide an exemplary learning environment for students. It offers a one-of-a-kind, quality education to an economically and racially diverse group of students. The vision of JRCS is to be nationally recognized as the premier PK-8 learning center that equips students to excel at their life's passions.

This unique public charter school places students in the heart of the city for daily exposure to the culturally rich amenities that are only available in downtown OKC. Expanded opportunities abound within walking distance of the campuses. Downtown neighbors include: multiple performing and arts organizations, city and county government offices, many corporate partners, access to most of OKC's distinct districts, plus numerous cultural and sports-related resources. "A major catalyst for the school's early success was its partnership with the downtown community. On any given day you can see Rex Rockets walking to the downtown library, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, or Film Row," said Inasmuch Foundation President and CEO Bob Ross.



EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY: THE 3 R'S

Relationships

John Rex School builds positive relationships by:

- Guiding positive and nurturing learning relationships between students, teachers, city leaders, and parents
- Bringing the City into the school to catalyze the downtown community

Relevance

Students are able to address authentic learning situations using problem-solving and critical thinking skills in unpredictable real-world situations by:

- Utilizing the entire downtown landscape as the learning environment
- Creating enrichment opportunities that engage the community's downtown art, cultural, civic, governmental, medical, and business resources
- Incorporating modern technology skills utilizing 1-to-1 devices in grades PreK-8th Grade

Rigor

JRCS engages learners to master Oklahoma Academic Standards and prepares them to be college and career-ready by:

- Understanding that learning is non-linear and must allow for flex and flow between various learning modalities, developmental milestones, and the extra time or support needed to develop mastery of learning
- Building a solid foundation in enduring learning concepts so that all students will be grounded in the essential skills needed to compete successfully in a global economy

JOHN REX CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

John Rex Charter Elementary spans grades PreK through 4th grade. John Rex offers an innovative curriculum that integrates project-based learning with balanced literacy (the workshop approach to reading and writing). The focus of our curriculum is two-fold. The first component is the foundational academic knowledge emphasizing authentic, relevant educational experiences. This approach integrates problem-solving opportunities and hands-on experiences. The second component is social-emotional learning. This approach is guided by methodologies integrated from Responsive Classroom and Conscious Discipline.

Students are involved in learning activities that integrate Oklahoma Academic Standards and require them to apply skills learned in all subject areas. Students at John Rex are encouraged to explore and enjoy a variety of co-curricular subjects. Students are provided Spanish, music, visual art, physical/health, and STE[+a]M instruction throughout the entire school year.



JOHN REX CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

John Rex Charter Middle spans grades 5th-8th grade. Summit Learning's platform is utilized to personalize learning and to empower students to harness their inner drive for success. Developed in partnership with nationally-acclaimed learning scientists and researchers, our instructional approach inspires students and prepares them for life after graduation. By concentrating on the personal needs and abilities of individual students, we have been able to create an environment that fosters success. Students at John Rex start to understand what they are truly capable of, untap their hidden drive for learning, and develop the skills they need to choose their own path in school and in life. Students prepare for life by honing the skills, habits, and knowledge they'll need in the real world by working at their own pace until they have a deep understanding of skills and subject matter.

When it comes to learning and instruction, the Summit Learning approach has three main components. These interconnected components are necessary to ensure that students are ready to live their best life after graduation. Our school builds these components into our weekly schedule.

- **Mentoring:** Ensures that each student is known and supported by a caring adult through weekly 1:1 check-ins
- **Projects:** Equips students with life skills that they will apply to real-world scenarios in college and career
- **Self-Direction:** Helps students develop the ability to set and follow through on short- and long-term goals



EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES

The substantial amenities in downtown OKC afford us the ability to create programming that extends learning beyond the walls of school and offers expanded learning opportunities with our downtown partners. We are proud to partner with the Arts Council of Oklahoma City, Myriad Botanical Gardens, Downtown Metropolitan Library, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Oklahoma City Riversport & Boathouse, Oklahoma City Ballet, Oklahoma Youth Orchestra, Police Athletic League, Historic Film Row District, Lyric Theatre, and more! These organizations create the context for limitless urban learning opportunities.

ENRICHMENT AND EXTENSION

John Rex School has developed a Schoolwide Enrichment Model (SEM) that offers periodic short-term interest-based sessions focused on students' specific talents or interests. This offers all children the opportunity to enrich their learning and experiences by applying, deepening, and extending learning while utilizing their interests, talents, and learning or expression styles.

EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS

John Rex complies with all state and federal laws related to the education of children with disabilities. JRCS is committed to evaluating, placing, and providing services to students in the least restrictive environment so that each student may receive a high-quality, free appropriate public education. In accordance with IDEA, the student's IEP team establishes the identification, evaluation, placement, and appropriate services. If a student's IEP team determines that another placement other than JRCS is necessary, the school will collaborate with OKCPS to determine the appropriate placement and facilitate a transfer to one of the district's other school sites.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The John Rex PTA is a very active and diverse group of parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers, staff, and community members dedicated to the success of the school. The PTA aims to promote the education and well-being of all students through collaborative programs and efforts between the school, families, and community; inclusivity; advocacy; and various other forms of support and volunteerism.