

# Together, WE ARE NCA



Minds that Think. Hearts that Love. Hands that Serve.

Educating students in Preschool through 8th Grade across Uptown, Andersonville, Edgewater, Rogers Park, West Ridge, and beyond.





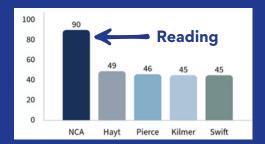
# **Minds that Think**

NCA teachers inspire curiosity and build confidence

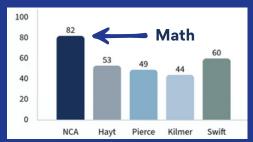
From **Preschool through 8th Grade**, our engaging academic program prepares all students to think critically, solve problems, and love learning.

- **Early Learning (Preschool)** Students develop social, intellectual, language, creative, and physical skills while exploring early literacy and math.
- **Primary (Kindergarten Grade 2)** Students strengthen core skills in reading, writing, and math.
- Intermediate (Grades 3-5) Teachers encourage independence, teamwork, and research through writing projects and weekly STEAM lessons.
- Middle School (Grades 6-8) Learning emphasizes inquiry-based learning with subject-area specialists and hands-on, real-world problem solving.

#### 2025 NCA Proficiency Scores vs Local Public Schools



**90%** of NCA students test proficient at or above grade level



More than 80% of NCA students test proficient at or above grade level

- S.T.A.M.P. Program (Spanish, Technology, Art, Music & PE) Inspires creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork while strengthening cognitive and motor skills from preschool through middle school
- Experiential & Project-Based Learning Through our Wildcat Workshop, STEM challenges, service projects, and field trips throughout Chicago, students explore real-world connections and learn by doing.
- Prepared for What's Next NCA graduates go on to the city's top high schools—selective enrollment, Catholic, and independent. Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat!

**Rooted in Faith and Purpose** Guided by our vision— "Diverse communities united to build up the Kingdom of God, one child at a time"—our students are grounded in the faith, wisdom, and the confidence to do great things.





### **Hearts that Love**

Wildcats shine inside and outside the classroom

**Learning goes Beyond the Classroom.** Our students build character, confidence, and friendships through activities that help students grow as leaders, teammates, and friends.

 Clubs & Activities Band, Music Kids, Chess, Soccer Stars, Crafty Hands, BrAIn Club Robotics, Yearbook

• **Student Council** Elected middle school students learn responsibility and teamwork while planning events, encouraging school spirit, and gaining leadership skills

 Buddy Program Older students mentor younger ones during Mass, service projects, and fun activities—fostering friendships and mentorships across all grades

• **Field Trips** Teachers plan outings to highlight our city and its offerings, including trips to museums, theaters, operas, fire stations, zoos, and more!



Our student-athletes participate in volunteer-led programs, learning teamwork, discipline, and resilience along the way. From volleyball and basketball to soccer and cross country, our Wildcats compete with spirit and sportsmanship—while younger students explore Bitty Sports.

of our students in Grades 4–8 participate in NCA's athletic program



#### Fall Sports

- Cross Country (5-8)
- Co-Ed Soccer (5-8)
- Girls Volleyball (4-8)
- Bitty Basketball (K-3)
- Junior Running Club (1–4)

#### **Winter Sports**

• Boys & Girls Basketball (4–8)

#### **Spring Sports**

- Bitty Volleyball (2-4)
- Boys Volleyball (5–8)





## **Hands that Serve**

Where we put our mission into action

NCA thrives through the partnership of parents, caregivers, and parish communities. **Together,** we model generosity, participation, and shared purpose for our children.

• **Service Leaders** Students lead initiatives that support our neighbors, including Misericordia, Care for Real, Catholic Charities, St. Ignatius Food Pantry, Edgewater Memory Village, and more.

• **House System** Students join one of four Houses where they build friendships across grade levels and grow in values like courage, compassion, and leadership.

- **Welcoming to Diverse Families** We embrace students and families from all faiths and cultures—representing more than 22 languages and 6 continents. Our classrooms reflect the richness of the global Church and foster a community where every child feels valued.
- Connected to our Parishes NCA proudly serves families from four North Side Chicago parishes—St. Gertrude; Holy Child Jesus; Mary, Mother of God; and St. Jerome.

### **Additional Family Support and Programs**

- Financial Aid Available for students in Grades K-8
- Extended Care\* Starting at \$7/hour per child, helping working families balance school and schedules with affordable care
- Summer Camp Robust activities and field trips available June-August with NCA staff

\*Extended care coverage includes before and after school hours (6:30 am-6:00 pm), including most half-days and early dismissals.







### **NCA To-Dos**

- Schedule a tour
- Join an Open House
- Check out a Play Date
- Talk to an NCA Family



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