

A Curriculum Inspired by Waldorf Education

Golden Valley Charter School of Sacramento offers a seat-based, K-8 program, ages four years, 9 months to 14 years old that uses an arts-integrated Waldorf –methods curriculum and instructional approach. GVCS will strive to ensure that each child meets both the California State Standards and the *Waldorf Methods Standards Based on California State Standards* by the time he/she exits eighth grade. GVCS will ensure overall alignment of the curriculum with State standards to create success for all students in meeting the requirements of state-mandated standardized testing. Our curriculum determines that some State standards will be addressed at different grade levels from those stated in the California state framework. Our intent is that GVCS students who have attended GVCS for at least five years will receive a curriculum and instructional program aligned to the state’s content standards as measured by a score of “proficient” or above on the California Standards Tests in English/language arts, mathematics, science and history/social science.

A California certificated Class teacher is hired as the primary teacher for each class. Ideally, a single teacher leads the same group of children from grade to grade beginning in the First grade. These teachers teach the core academic subjects of mathematics, language arts, science, and history/social studies/geography. They are responsible for overseeing the students’ academic progress and monitoring assessment. The class teachers for grades 1-8 may be supplemented by additional staff to lead specialty classes and activities. These instructional staff members, or Subject Specialists, are not bound by credential requirements, as they do not teach the core curriculum and do not teach college preparatory courses. As such, they will be considered instructional support staff teaching under the supervision of the credentialed, lead class teacher. Specialists/instructional support staff will demonstrate appropriate subject matter expertise and the capacity to work successfully in the classroom environment. Our Subject Specialists may teach a variety of subjects, including, but not limited to, foreign languages, music, handwork, woodworking, games, gardening, orchestra or strings, and eurythmy. The Subject Specialists’ student assessments are included in the students’ end-of-year reports provided by the lead class teacher.