

Fall, 2012

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# Academy Integrated Students Kick Off New School Year



THE ACADEMY

## INTEGRATED PROGRAM

The Academy Integrated Program kicked off an exciting new fall session and school year on August 27, 2012. With the Labor Day holiday already behind us, students have settled into their academy class schedules, as well as a newly structured program routine in the after-school hours.

In addition to the rigorous educational environment that the Integrated students are experiencing, they also benefit from supplemental classes which reinforce the BARJ principals and enable them develop the skills necessary to achieve their goals and objectives.



### *Evidence-Based Curricula Pave the Way to Progress*

#### **AGGRESSION REPLACEMENT TRAINING**

Aggression Replacement Training groups, facilitated by Jason Dodson, MA, are available to all Integrated students. Each group meets twice per week to work through the 10-week curriculum.

#### **OUTPATIENT DRUG & ALCOHOL**

Students in the licensed and accredited outpatient drug and alcohol counseling program participate in two group sessions per week. Individual counseling is also conducted as needed to assist students with maintaining their progress toward sobriety and recovery. The program is staffed by two credentialed D&A Counselors, under the supervision of Cliff Graham, CADC.

#### **SERVSAFE & CULINARY WORK PROGRAM**

Certified ServSafe Instructor, Natalie DeiCas facilitates classes for Integrated students twice per week. The first groups are expected to test for their certification prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. Students in program are also eligible to participate in the Culinary Work Program in order to fulfill restitution obligations.



### Life Skills Program

During the month of September students in the Academy Integrated Program began the life skills development curriculum by completing the Casey Life Skills Assessment. The students will utilize the re-

sults of this diagnostic tool to understand their individual competencies and develop a learning plan in collaboration with our Mental Health Counselors. Life skills lessons cover topics related to employability and

independent living skills, pro-social interaction techniques and healthy decision-making abilities. Students will then look to establish future goals and objectives based on the insight gained throughout the process.

### Community Service Projects

Academy Integrated students are able to participate in Community Service projects during weekend program. As the fall weather arrives, outdoor clean-up and landscape projects will take center-stage within our community. The Academy also partners with the group Citizens Against Litter to receive "redd-up" assignments, serving more than 90 communities in the Pittsburgh area.

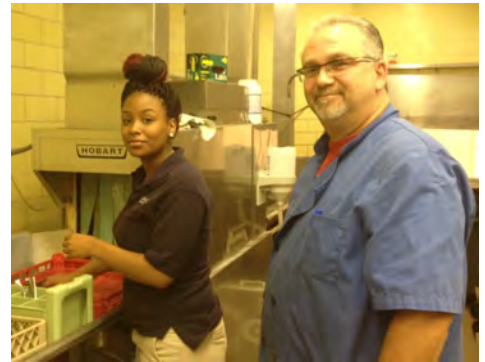


## Trade Training and Work Program Opportunities

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The Academy offers several trade training and work program opportunities to students who attend The Integrated Program. Based on our new programming schedule, most of the instructional opportunities occur in individual or small group settings. In addition to learning employability skills and basic trade knowledge, our students get to participate in hands-on work opportunities which not only provides employment experience but also enables students to earn funds which can be used to satisfy restitution obligations and court fees.

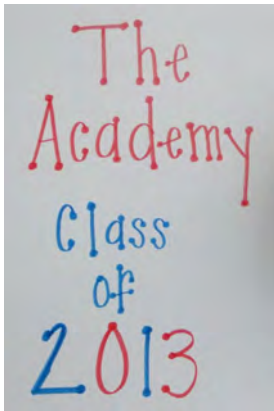


Trade instruction exists in the areas of:

- ◆ Food Service
- ◆ Woodshop
- ◆ Building & Custodial Maintenance

## Charter School Class of 2013—Senior Happenings

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The Class of 2013 has already begun to plan goals, activities and events for the months leading up to their graduation. Class Officers will be elected in the coming weeks and a calendar of Senior Class “happenings” will be determined based on student input and under the guidance of Senior Class Advisor, Dr. James Chapas.

Suggested class functions include Senior Field Day, Senior Community Service Project, January Graduate Luncheon, and, of course, our June Charter Commencement Ceremony.

We are looking forward to an exciting, fun-filled year with our Seniors.

## Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

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The Academy Charter School **Open House** is scheduled for October 17th. Our faculty and staff are looking forward to hosting all of our guests that day. Transportation will be provided for parents who wish to attend.

**Progress Reports** will be distributed October 1st and **Report Cards** on Friday, November 2nd.

Please be aware that both the Charter School and Integrated Programs will operate on their normal schedules on **Election Day**, November 6th, 2012.

