

North Star Charter recognized by Superintendent Luna

By Jennifer Anderson

Friday, September 21, from 8:00- 10:00 am, Superintendent Tom Luna spoke at an all-school assembly congratulating North Star Charter School on their tremendous Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) success. Meeting all standards in all 41 categories, not an easy feat per Mr. Luna, the school was also ranked #1 in the state of Idaho on the High School Challenge (82nd in the nation) via the Washington Post.

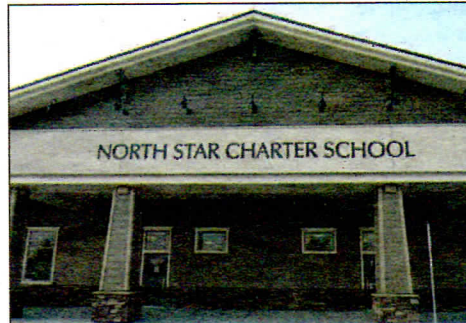
Using the modified Harbor Method of education and IB (International Baccalaureate) programs, North Star continues to rank as one of the top performing schools in Idaho. Recently, the Independent News had the opportunity to visit North Star and see firsthand the extraordinarily effective teaching methods being employed and speak with the head of the school, Dr. Larry Rogien and Marketing Director, Lisa Caulfield.

Dr. Rogien indicated North Star's primary focus is business and economics. Featuring a strong program of entrepreneurship, business finance, micro and macroeconomics, and requiring three years of a language, the school is devoted to preparing kids to enter college with exceptional skills.

Along with a rigorous curriculum, many students having completed the requirements for their first year of college before they graduate, the school and its administration stress character development through a mantra of respect yourself, respect others,



Head of the school, Dr. Larry Rogien and Marketing Director, Lisa Caulfield took time from their busy schedule to offer and tour and visit about the amazing learning opportunities available at North Star.



North Star Charter School is located at 839 N. Linder Rd., Eagle, ID

and respect property. Service is a high priority and 150 hours minimum of service are just par for the course in this school that seeks to inspire civic leadership.

Dr. Rogien says, "The kids who are bored in a regular school experience find stimulation here. We will push them to their capacity." North Star operates on a regular school calendar, but takes about a week break every six weeks. Offering sports, clubs, band, and choir opportunities, students have many opportunities for well-rounded growth outside the classroom, but it's in the classroom that things get really interesting.

Applying a modified Harbor Method of teaching, teachers are trained to use techniques of repetition, rhymes, skits and a variety of modalities to aid students in learning specific skills. Students also learn by service teaching (teaching younger age children concepts) and are taught at an accelerated rate. Requiring discipline, responsibility, and engagement, the students take an active part in their own education.

However, getting in to North Star Charter School may not be easy and it may not be for your student. Enrollment is based on a lottery system and applications are board approved, but once in other siblings are more likely to be accepted. Last year almost all seniors received college scholarships and 3¼ million dollars in scholarships were awarded to the 31 graduates.

For more detailed information about North Star Charter School or to apply, visit their website at <http://www.northstar charter.org>. The school is located at 839 N. Linder Rd in Eagle.