



Our VS Program Experience: Quotes from VS Parents

Why we choose to send our daughter to Lincoln? As a parent we like what we saw at the orientation, the concept of challenging each student based on their capability. Also teaching them economics (i.e. Market) starting in 4th grade is good way to teach kids about how to manage money in real life. Also, it is more fun to compete with students who are equally smart. It motivates kids to do better when they know everyone is like them and may be better. And at last, we do like our teachers!

~ Arica

Our questions centered around the homework load and the atmosphere of the school. We wanted to be sure that the homework load would not preclude time at home for free play, extracurriculars, and hobbies. We also wanted to be sure the environment wasn't hypercompetitive in an unhealthy way. We're happy to say that both of those are NOT concerns. The Academy at Lincoln staff do a great job of giving just enough responsibility – building and challenge without overloading or stressing the child (at least in our experience) and the students have friendly peer competition that is healthy.

~Amy

The benefit. I feel, to being in the VS program for my 2 kids was the other students. Apart from the academics, I feel that being with other bright kids made my son a little less arrogant about being smart and realizing he had to work hard and could not just coast. For my daughter, it raised her overall level of what she considered good enough. Because the bar was so much higher, she had to work harder. I feel both my kids benefited greatly by being in the VS program. Neither would be as successful as they have been so far without the opportunity to interact with other bright, creative, motivated, and unique kids. I feel very fortunate that GCS has this program and it would be such a loss if other students, like mine, don't get the same opportunity.

~ Susan

I would just say to be prepared for significantly more homework and project work outside of school than you had at your local elementary. The kids will be working at a high level and will need a lot of guidance, both with the subject matter and with getting organized to complete the work. It's important to prioritize and be aware of the multiple deadlines that will be assigned. It will feel overwhelming at first, but once both you and your child get the hang of it, it won't feel as stressful. Key suggestions are to read the Visions newsletter as soon as you receive it and check with your child daily about what work has been assigned and when it is due.

~Tory