

PRESS KIT



When you drop off, we pick up. SM

Corporate Office Address:

New Horizon Academy
3405 Annapolis Lane North, Suite 100
Plymouth, MN 55447-5343
(763) 557-1111





Family Owned and Operated

We are a local, family-owned and operated organization.



We've Made the Grade

One hundred percent of our eligible schools are accredited.



Quality Educational Programs

Thoughtfully planned programs designed to meet children's specific needs from infants to preschool and beyond.



Professionally Trained Teachers

Our teachers provide learning experiences and support to cultivate lifelong learning.



Daily Connect

Our Daily Connect application allows parents to receive photos and updates from teachers throughout the day.

Our Story

New Horizon Academy, a Minnesota family-owned and operated company, has been serving young children for over 45 years. Our founder, Sue Dunkley, began her career as an elementary school teacher. Sue knew she needed to provide a nurturing place for children to go before they ventured out into the big world and entered school, a place that would help them believe in themselves. That is why New Horizon was born.

Today, Chad Dunkley, Sue's son and one of New Horizon Academy's first students, is our Chief Executive Officer. Chad ensures that the commitment to excellence Sue strived for in New Horizon's early years and the foundation that our company was built upon continue to be the cornerstone for each New Horizon Academy. Indeed, the entire mission, philosophy, and practices of New Horizon Academy are devoted to that commitment to excellence and the development of a healthy sense of self in every child enrolled in our programs.

Because of our continuing love, belief, and dedication to children, we have flourished and become one of the nation's most successful and respected providers of child care and early education.

As New Horizon Academy continues to grow and serve more families each year, we will always have family roots, a warm atmosphere, an open door, and a commitment to excellence.

Where Love & Learning Grow



We offer comprehensive early educational programs designed to help prepare children for success in elementary school and beyond in over 75 locations in Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, and Minnesota.



Company Milestones

1970s

Founded by Susan and William Dunkley, New Horizon Nursery School opens.



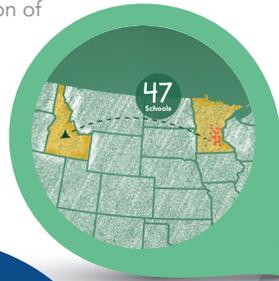
A New Horizon

"I believe each and every child deserves a new horizon."
- Susan Dunkley, Founder



1990s

Our commitment to excellence continues with our acquisition of several schools in Idaho and the operation of 47 schools in Minnesota.



1980s

We are the first school to use sign language in infant classrooms to enhance communication and language development.

2010s

We continue our commitment to innovation and create the farm-to-table program for our schools. We are one of the first early childhood organizations to make a commitment to the Partnership for a Healthier America.



2000s

Our schools earn accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). We also earn the highest rating from Parent Aware.



Today

We continue to expand and thrive as one of the nation's most successful and respected child care providers with over 60 nationally accredited schools.

Most Admired CEO

"We provide the best possible learning environment for children during their most formative years." - Chad Dunkley, Chief Executive Officer



About Chad Dunkley, Chief Executive Officer



Chad Dunkley is Chief Executive Officer for New Horizon Academy. He oversees operations, marketing, strategy, and finance, and drives the culture of "continuous improvement" at all New Horizon Academy locations.

Chad received his J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law and his B.A. in management from Hamline University. Chad is President of the Minnesota Child Care Association (MCCA), a governing board member of The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and an executive committee board member of The Early Care and Education Consortium (ECEC). He is also Chair of NAEYC's Early Learning Systems Committee. In past years, Chad participated in the Child Care Reform Advisory Panel for the Center for American Progress and served on the board of Ready 4K.

The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal recognized Chad Dunkley as one of the region's most outstanding business leaders as one of their "Forty Under 40" award recipients in 2004. He is a frequent spokesperson and presenter on early childhood issues and has been interviewed and featured in numerous publications. Most recently, Chad published articles for Child Care Exchange magazine on engaging with school districts and Minnesota's early learning scholarship model for closing the achievement gap.

In addition, he is active in the political arena for early childhood issues. Chad regularly testifies and meets with national and state officials to advocate improving programs for young children. Chad was named an "Exceptional Emerging Leader" by the Child Care Information Exchange in 2015.

In 2017, Chad was chosen as one of the ten Most Admired CEOs. This award was given by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal, and honorees are selected because of their outstanding contributions to their company, industry, and community.

Caring Beyond the Classroom

Children and staff at New Horizon Academy engage in service learning projects through our Caring Beyond the Classroom program.

Throughout the year, students engage in activities that give back to the local community. Activities may include fundraising for various charities, food drives, back-to-school supply drives, adopting a park, book or toy drives, planting trees in local parks, coat and mitten drives, crafts with senior citizens, cards to support the troops, and many more.

The Caring Beyond the Classroom program cultivates a lifelong commitment to service and diplomacy. The program encourages collaboration and problem-solving, while it promotes social responsibility, positive citizenship, empathy, kindness, and compassion.



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