



BizSnaps

A Snapshot look at local businesses



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Business: Sequoia Academy
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Directions: Off Wuthering Hills Drive, just north of Hwy 14.
Business Hours: Open 7:30-5:30 M-F

When was the business started? Sequoia Academy opened it's doors in September 2007. Although we have only been open for 6 months, we have already had some amazing successes. We are also modeled after Clearwater Academy who has developed a great curriculum and over 25 years of success stories.

How did you get interested in this project? When I was pregnant with my first child, I started really thinking about education and child care. After 3 years of research in the field, I founded Sequoia Academy by bringing together the very best in educational philosophy, experiences, and environment.

Describe your services: Sequoia Academy is a non-profit, non-religious, private school. We are an Applied Scholastics school. We have 3 distinct programs; 1) a private school for 2 year old preschool students through high school students, 2) a comprehensive tutoring program, and 3) courses for adults and children on learning and parenting.

What is the philosophy of the school? Sequoia Academy is a non-profit, non-religious, private school that celebrates children in their individual paths to be open-minded, creative, ethical, and independent learners and to apply their education to the world in which they live. Educationally, each child goes at their own pace in every subject, NEVER being left behind or left bored. This allows every student to reach their full potential and meet their personal goals. In order to accomplish this, we have a comprehensive curriculum and a small teacher to student ratio. We also teach environmental responsibility, provide many enrichment activities, take weekly field trips, offer organic meals, have minimal homework and go year round. We are the first school of this kind in the state.

What is unique about your tutoring program? Our program is called the Applied Scholastics Achievement Program (ASAP). The program repairs the gaps one has accumulated that are preventing them from succeeding in school. It also teaches them how to learn so they can prevent those gaps in the future. The results from this program are exceptional. It is being delivered all across the country, but we are the first to bring it to Wisconsin.

Do you offer any programs for children over the summer? Yes, we have a summer program that combines our tutoring program with fun, summertime activities. It is ideal for a child who needs some real help with school and wants to be involved in fun activities during the summer, too.

What type of courses do you offer? We have a variety of courses that we offer evenings and weekends. They are suitable for parents wanting to help their kids in school or improve their parenting skills, teachers who want to learn ways to improve their teaching methods, or children who want to learn how to learn.

What have you learned from this business? Children can do extremely well when they are in the right educational environment. It has been so great to see how much the children love coming to school and tutoring when they are given the tools to succeed. Also, I have been very impressed on how our educational tools have been able to help students with ADHD without resorting to drugs.

What are your future plans for your business? Our community of students and parents is growing very quickly, therefore, we are in the process of looking for a second location. We are also looking for ways to offer our tutoring program to underprivileged children in our community. Our goal is to improve education on a very broad scope in our community.

Do you have any successes to share? A parent who has taken our parenting course said, "I am better able to help my daughter succeed in life and we are both better people. I am much more confident in my abilities to raise her. I only wish I had been exposed to this much earlier in my parenting."
 A student who had completed the tutoring program said, "At the beginning of eighth grade year I was doing horribly in my classes, especially math. I was really misbehaving and being a class clown...I started changing after I took the ASAP program. I know what to do now. I know the method to understand and learn. I have strong confidence in myself. One reason is because I went from an "F" to and "A" in math in the middle of the year. Now I am no longer the class clown and I am a lot happier"



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