



# Active Minds...

*imagination, infinite possibilities,  
new friends and a love for learning*



## Dear Parents,

Akers Academy recognizes the needs of the young child and the necessity of a well-planned, developmentally appropriate curriculum that is stimulating, challenging and fun. A continued love of learning is the best gift you can give. "High quality child care experiences in terms of both classroom practices and teacher-child relationships, children's abilities to take advantage of the educational opportunities in school." (*Cost Quality and Child Outcomes Study, University of Colorado at Denver 1999*) The National Education Goals Panel's Report, *Reconsidering Children's Early Development and Learning* (2000) identifies "Five Key Areas that define children's readiness to attend school and the ability to participate in a learning environment:

1. Physical Well-Being and Motor Development
2. Social and Emotional Development
3. Approaches to Learning
4. Language Development
5. Cognition and General Knowledge

*"Children who attend well-planned, high quality early childhood programs in which curriculum aims are specified and integrated across domains tend to learn more and are better prepared to master the complex demands of formal schooling." (Eager to Learn, National Research Council, 2001)*

Our curriculum was developed with these goals in mind. We use a combination of Curriculums developed from High Reach Curriculum, McGraw Hill's SRA Open Court and the Preschool Curriculum Library by Anthony J. Coletta Ph.D. We assess our children's growth quarterly, send home "Skills-Concept Checklist" in January and June, offer conferences at anytime during the school year to discuss progress or concerns. Our curriculum is Thematic, with progressive skill development; we also have stimulating and challenging activities that extend beyond curriculum. This approach is called "Active Minds". We want each child to experience developmental success that will build for a future and love of learning, active minds foster growth, emotionally, socially, intellectually and physically for the whole child's experience.

Akers Academy is here to help your child learn, thrive and grow from their experiences. We are delighted you have chosen us as your child's first school.