

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.



Mobile App

Our mobile app allows parents to receive photos and updates from teachers throughout the day.

Our Story

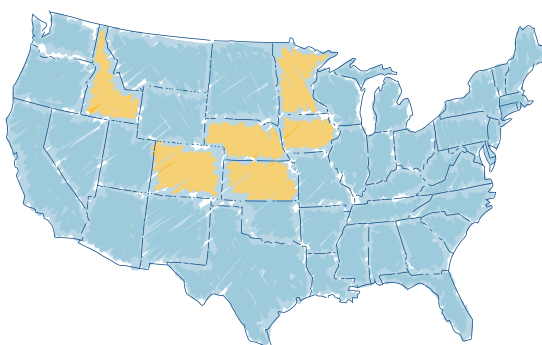
New Horizon Academy, a Minnesota family-owned and operated company, has been serving young children since 1971. Our founder, Sue Dunkley, began her career as an elementary school teacher. Sue knew she needed to provide a nurturing place for children to go before they ventured out into the big world and 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 at locations in Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, and Nebraska.

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



1980s

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



1990s

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



2000s

Our schools earn accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Our first onsite corporate school opens in Securian.



2019

We open another school in Boise, Idaho, by forming a partnership with The Salvation Army.



2018

We expand into the Iowa market by opening our downtown Des Moines school.



2017

Most Admired CEO

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



2010s

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



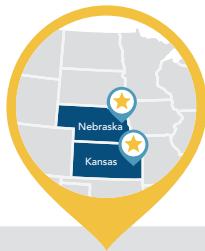
2019

Colorado expansion begins with opening our Centennial school.



2020

We continue to expand in Iowa and form a partnership with Pella Corporation.



2020s

Nationwide expansion continues, and we open our first property in Kansas in 2022. Our first Nebraska location opens in 2026.



Today

We continue to thrive as one of the most successful and respected childcare providers. We currently operate over 105 nationally accredited schools in Minnesota, Idaho, Iowa, Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska. All of our eligible schools are nationally accredited and many have earned the highest rating from QRIS programs.



About Chad Dunkley, Chief Executive Officer



A passionate and published leader, speaker, and advocate, Chad Dunkley drives the strategy and culture of continuous improvement at New Horizon Academy. After earning a Juris Doctor degree from William Mitchell College of Law, Chad followed his

mom's footsteps into early care and education. He says the moment he held his infant son in his arms, he knew there was no more important work than providing the best early education programs for young children and their families.

Throughout his career, Chad has earned international recognition as a leader. Chad was named a Most Admired CEO by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal (2017) and an Exceptional Emerging Leader by the Child Care Information Exchange (2015). In 2004, the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal recognized Chad as one of the region's most outstanding leaders as one of their Forty Under 40 award recipients. Chad is President of the Minnesota Child Care Association (MCCA), Co-Chair of The Early Care and Education Consortium (ECEC), an executive board member of the Chad Greenway Lead the Way Foundation, and a board member of the Minnesota Business Partnership. Chad also completed a four-year term on the governing board of The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in 2017.

Why Families Choose New Horizon Academy

An investment in a New Horizon Academy education is an investment in your child's future. Families trust New Horizon Academy to set their children up for success. Here are a few reasons why:



1. Family Owned and Operated

From a single preschool classroom in 1971 to 100 schools today, much has changed for New Horizon Academy, but our commitment to children, families, teachers, and our communities remains the same.



2. Award-Winning Care

One hundred percent of our eligible schools are accredited by NAEYC, the gold standard in early childhood accreditation. This is an accomplishment no other childcare provider of our size has achieved.



3. Experienced Teachers

We hire teachers with experience, give them the training and support they need to succeed, pay them above market average, and help them achieve their goals. This results in stable, consistent care for your child.



4. Modern, Child-Focused Facilities

Our state-of-the-art schools provide children with thoughtfully designed classrooms, playgrounds, and learning tools. We regularly update our schools to ensure they reflect our high standards for safety, quality, and care.



5. Safe and Healthy Environment

Your child's safety and well-being always come first. Our childcare centers create caring, secure environments focused on supporting each child's health and happiness. You can feel confident that your child is in good hands.



6. Age-Appropriate Curriculum

Our research-based curriculum offers engaging, hands-on activities in STEAM, language and literacy, social-emotional learning, physical development, and more to support kindergarten readiness and lifelong learning.



7. Culture of Belonging

As an organization, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive culture where all children, families, and staff feel a sense of belonging. We approach our relationships with curiosity, compassion, and respect.



8. Food and Nutrition

A nutritious breakfast, lunch, and snack are prepared fresh each day by our school chef, with menus developed by our nutrition specialist to ensure every meal is balanced. All meals are included in the cost of tuition!



9. Technology and Innovation

Our mobile app keeps parents connected with daily updates, allowing teachers to share information, send messages, and delight you with photos and videos from your child's day, so you never miss a moment.



10. Family Involvement

Families are always welcome to come in for visits, participate in activities, and join us for family fun events. We love having parents involved in their child's learning and value every opportunity to build a strong community.

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