

MEDIA KIT



Built to nurture.



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<https://www.facebook.com/newhorizonacademy>



<https://www.instagram.com/newhorizonacademy.usa/>



<https://www.pinterest.com/nhacademy/>



<https://www.tiktok.com/@newhorizonacademy>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/NewHorizonAcademy>



<https://open.spotify.com/user/31u5wc3rn3vadl3qwficy4lbqp6u?si=3bb2824415714b2a&nd=1>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/new-horizon-academy/posts/?feedView=all>





Why We're Unique

An investment in a New Horizon Academy education is an investment in your child's future. For over five decades families have put their trust in New Horizon Academy to set their children up for success. Here are five reasons that trust has been rewarded:

1

We do what's best for your child.

Frankly, doing the right thing for your child is easier for us. As a family-owned business, we are not beholden to distant stockholders or investment funds. We are beholden to the vision of our founders and the children we serve.

2

We invest in your child's teachers.

Investing in teachers is the most direct way to make a difference for your child. We support our teachers with training, education, and compensation that allows them to make serving children a career.

3

We teach social-emotional skills by example.

Our social-emotional practice starts with the discipline our teachers bring to every situation, every day. Through the skills of Conscious Discipline, they are trained to regulate their own emotions as they help children with theirs.

4

We invest in facilities and materials.

We provide our students with the physical environment and classroom materials that allow them to learn to their full potential. From our thoughtful building design to the robust budgets for the classroom, our facilities are truly built to nurture.

5

We help your child prepare for a great kindergarten experience.

Our goal is to prepare your children for the future and, in particular, their transition to kindergarten. From the moment a child joins us, we are building layer upon layer of skills and tools that will help them transition to their next stage of life.





Our Story - Built to Nurture

Early childhood care and education that is at the highest level.

New Horizon Academy, a Minnesota family-owned and operated company, has been serving young children since 1971. Since the very beginning, we have been built to nurture. 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.

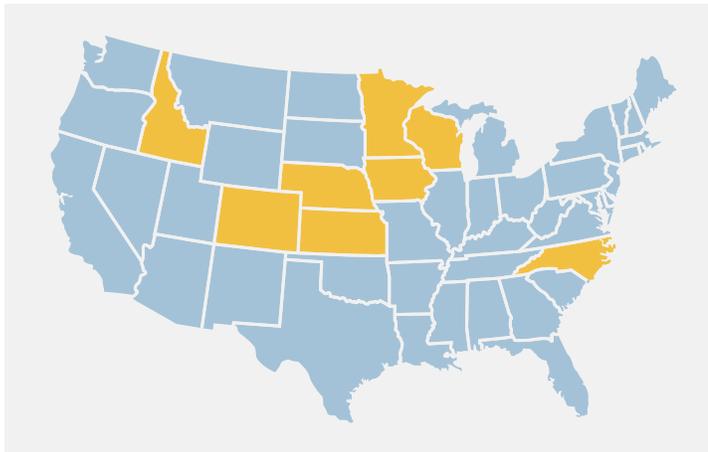
Today, Chad Dunkley, Sue's son and one of New Horizon Academy's first students, is our Chief Executive Officer. Chad ensures that the commitment to excellence Sue strived for in New Horizon's early years and the foundation that our company was built upon continue to be the cornerstone for each New Horizon Academy. Our mission has always been to go beyond the minimal expectations for a childcare center and provide high-quality care and education that supports every child's growth and development. 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 childcare and early education. Our children are much better prepared for kindergarten and beyond. Our teachers stay for years and often decades. And grateful parents know that because they invested in a school that invests in children, their child will enjoy a lifetime of benefits.

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, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Wisconsin.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to open “New Horizons” of self-esteem and potential for the little people entrusted to our care, their families, and our employees by providing and continuously improving the best child development on the planet!

Our Core Values



Our Curriculum - A Holistic Approach to Early Learning

At New Horizon Academy, our curriculum is designed around the latest early brain research and includes developmentally appropriate and engaging activities to support development in all learning domains. Our experienced teachers thoughtfully craft lesson plans to enhance cognitive, social, physical, and language development, foster creativity, and inspire a love of learning.

Excellence in Early Education

Driven by our strong commitment to quality, all New Horizon Academy schools voluntarily pursue national accreditation from trusted early childhood organizations. We proudly maintain full accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) across all our schools, with several also achieving dual accreditation from the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA).

Celebrating Excellence in Early Education

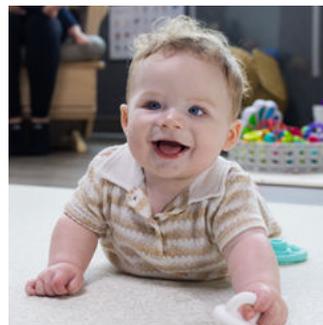
We're proud to be recognized for our commitment to quality childcare and education. Each award reflects the dedication of our experienced educators, the safety of our facilities, and our ongoing promise to provide exceptional experiences for children and families.

Entering Kindergarten with Confidence

Graduates of our pre-kindergarten program consistently meet and exceed kindergarten readiness expectations as they enter elementary school. According to the 2024-2025 Teaching Strategies® GOLD® assessment, 9 out of 10 New Horizon Academy pre-K children demonstrated outstanding kindergarten readiness skills across all learning domains.

Consistency You Can Count On

Our teachers are the heart of our schools. Since the first New Horizon Academy opened in 1971, we have remained committed to hiring only the best educators to care for our young learners. We take pride in our team of highly trained professionals who are passionate about early childhood education. Their dedication drives our mission every day, ensuring we deliver and continually enhance the best child development on the planet. New Horizon Academy teachers stay with us for an average of 5 years, with many reaching 10, 15, or even 20+ years! This far exceeds the early childhood industry average of 1-2 years.



Leadership

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.



Leadership



Penny Allen **Chief Financial Officer**

Penny serves as the chief financial officer for New Horizon Academy and Kinderberry Hill. In this role, Penny provides strategic leadership for the company's business and finance functions, as well as for the management of its financial and capital resources. She oversees the areas that provide critical business functions including purchasing, payroll, financial reporting, accounts receivable and payable, revenue reporting and financial systems. Penny works collaboratively with all departments to help carry out the company's mission of continuous improvement.

Penny is a certified public accountant and received a B.A. in business administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She began her career in public accounting, and prior to joining the company in 1994 worked in various accounting and finance roles. Penny was recognized in 2018 as a CFO of the Year honoree from the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*.



Jill Dunkley **Executive Vice President and** **General Counsel**

Jill serves as the chief legal officer and the executive vice president for New Horizon Academy. She provides advice and counsel to all departments within the organization, including overseeing a broad range of legal issues, real estate matters, regulatory matters, employment, acquisitions, and reputational risks. Prior to joining New Horizon Academy, Jill was an attorney with Dunkley and Bennett, P.A., where her primary practice areas included corporate, real estate, securities, mergers and acquisitions, employment, and a variety of commercial transactions. Jill received her juris doctor degree from William Mitchell College of Law and a bachelor's degree in international studies from Hamline University. Jill actively supports philanthropic events that are focused on improving the lives of children.

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, North Carolina, and Wisconsin locations open 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, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. All of our eligible schools are nationally accredited and many have earned the highest rating from QRIS programs.



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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