



Lindley Academy Charter School Receives 2024 Exceptional Charter School In Special Education Award by National Association of Special Education Teachers

Lindley is the only charter in Philadelphia to receive Special Educator Workforce grant from the The Pennsylvania Department of Education

PHILADELPHIA, PA; July 29, 2024—Lindley Academy, one of four American Paradigm Schools (APS) located in North Philadelphia, has been named a 2024 Exceptional Charter School in Special Education by the National Association of Special Education Teachers (NASET). This esteemed recognition has been granted to only 24 schools nationwide, with Lindley Academy being one of only four recipients in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

NASET awards the Exceptional Charter School in Special Education distinction as the highest level of recognition a charter school can attain through the professional association. The accolade is reserved for charter schools that demonstrate outstanding commitment, dedication, and achievement in the field of special education, while meeting rigorous professional criteria.

"We are honored and deeply proud to receive this distinction for the second year in a row," said Elaine Latimer, Director of Special Education at Lindley Academy. "This acknowledgment highlights the outstanding dedication of our Special Education Teachers, Instructional Assistants, Related Service providers, and school psychologists, who pour their hearts and souls into our Lindley scholars."

Lindley Academy was also recently awarded a \$20,000 grant from The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to support its special education programming and staff, further supporting the state's efforts to grow Pennsylvania's Special Educator Workforce. PDE awarded \$1.4 million to 77 schools across the state, and Lindley Academy was the only charter school in Philadelphia to receive this recognition and support.

"This funding underscores our commitment to special education. The grant will further enable us to provide exceptional educational experiences and support to our students and educators, helping them succeed in every aspect of the learning journey. We are humbled by the Pennsylvania Department of Education's recognition," said Latimer.

In addition to this distinction, Lindley Academy will be prominently featured on the NASET [website](#) as an Exceptional Charter School in Special Education, showcasing the institution's outstanding accomplishments in this critical field. For more information, please visit NASET.org

About American Paradigm Schools

American Paradigm Schools (APS) is a nonprofit charter management organization that supports and serves four charter schools in North and Northeast Philadelphia. These schools are: First Philadelphia Preparatory Charter School; Lindley Academy Charter School; Memphis Street Academy; and Tacony Academy Charter School. For more information, visit www.ap-schools.org.

American Paradigm Schools are dedicated to equity and excellence for all learners, while celebrating the uniqueness of our communities. Our values drive our dedication to providing a world class education.

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Media Contact:

Kali Gill, Gregory FCA
610-731-4179 (cell)
kali@gregoryfca.com