Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions your family will make. In selecting an independent school, you have the unique opportunity of also selecting a culture of attitudes and values that will shape your child’s learning experience. Carden provides an educational environment of advanced academic achievement, character development, and leadership training, cornerstones for your child’s future happiness, success, and well-being.

Cathy Edwards
Head of School
At Carden we nurture our students’ passion for learning--giving them a command of scholastic subjects, awakening their sensibilities to the beauty and power of nature, the arts, and literature, and making them conscious of their social responsibilities.

Our teachers challenge students to analyze, theorize, and imagine. They develop in each student the confidence to begin, the knowledge to succeed, and the stamina to finish.

Discover the joy of learning
Preparing the child to live life triumphantly.

The mission of Carden Arbor View School is to provide the highest quality education of the whole child using the Carden curriculum and philosophy—to educate with joy, growth, enthusiasm, dignity, and respect.

Spend time speaking with our students and you will witness the incredible level of respect they have for their teachers, their peers, and themselves. Students and teachers enjoy a close educational relationship. Small class sizes offer teachers the opportunity to work closely with each student, ensuring lessons are well understood.

Carden teachers design their lesson plans to meet the needs of each student at the appropriate pace.
Our school embraces the Carden Instructional Method developed by Mae Carden, which is currently used by over 80 schools nationwide and internationally. Our students are taught organizational skills and study habits that enable them to achieve the highest academic standards. True to Mae Carden’s vision, we teach our students to question and hone their own ideas, and to problem-solve and think critically.
Science
French
Writing
Reading
Spelling
Mathematics
Music & Art
Language Arts
Dramatic Arts
Positive Self-Image
Social Development
Motor Development
Listening and Reasoning

The Kindergarten Experience
A nurturing full-day kindergarten program offers young children the opportunity to advance at a comfortable pace, encouraging success along each step of the way. Teachers, students, and parents develop strong relationships as they provide the foundation for success in learning.
enthusiasm

“The greatest benefit my child receives from CARDEN ARBOR View School is the joy of learning, building confidence, and self-esteem.”

CARDEN parent
Primary Grade Levels
First through Fifth

At the heart of the Carden Instructional Method is a vital educational philosophy with proven teaching techniques. Our elementary program, first through fifth grades, ensures that each child receives a well-developed and articulated program. Small class sizes, even smaller instructional groups, additional support staff, and specialist teachers enable us to provide each student with a thorough instructional program.

Learning a foreign language is an important component in a well-rounded education. A Carden student’s first exposure to French begins in kindergarten. Proficiency accelerates with the layering of reading, writing, and grammatical instruction from first through fifth grade.
Middle School
Sixth through Eighth

By middle school our students are ready for the challenges of a departmentalized program taught by teachers trained specifically in their subjects. Our focus is for students to graduate from CARDEN with a comprehensive understanding of their subjects, rather than an education comprised of an assortment of facts garnered solely by rote. Our middle school students rotate through five periods of academic courses and two periods of enrichment “center” classes each day.

For seventh graders our curriculum includes Latin, which broadens their vocabulary development as it enhances their overall mastery of English and prepares them for advanced levels in high school and college. Eighth graders at CARDEN take Spanish 1 and either Algebra 1 or geometry.

“I love the environment and the campus at CARDEN, the closeness we have with not just our own class but with all the other class and grade levels.”

Eighth grade student
Outdoor Education

Our outdoor education program offers more than the traditional “field trip” experience. All the students in fourth through eighth grades participate in travel programs designed to supplement the academic curriculum. Learning often takes place outside the classroom and our outdoor education programs are designed to provide real life application of important skills. Students return from these excursions enthused and excited to share their experience with their peers and families. All bring back memories to last a lifetime.
Outdoor Travel Experiences

**Fourth Grade**
State Capitol, Sutter’s Fort & Mill
Sacramento, CA
Two-Day Travel Experience

**Fifth Grade**
Astro Camp
Idyllwild, CA
Five-Day Travel Experience

**Sixth Grade**
Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI)
Catalina, CA
Five-Day Travel Experience

**Seventh Grade**
Quebec and Montreal, Canada
Five-Day Travel Experience

**Eighth Grade**
Washington, D.C.
Mount Vernon, Monticello, Williamsburg, VA
Philadelphia, Gettysburg, Valley Forge, PA
Seven-Day Travel Experience
Sports & Physical Education

Fifth through eighth grade girls and boys have the option of participating in interscholastic sports. These programs provide opportunities for students to form lasting bonds, to display their Cougar pride, and to showcase their skills in an atmosphere of fun and fair play.

Basketball
Flag Football
Volleyball
Soccer
Track
Parent Participation

Parents give hundreds of hours to our school, from chaperoning field trips, serving food at events, setting up booths at Fall Carnival, and working the book fair, to volunteering for board or committee service. Each family is required to participate in the program to assist Carden in fulfilling its mission and goals by contributing time and talent to the overall operations of the school.

“Realize the kind deeds you will do will be returned to you by some other person at some other time.”

Mae Carden
Community

At Carden we pride ourselves on our commitment to give back to the community and to instill such values in our students. Spirit Teams bring together students from all grade levels to focus on philanthropic projects. Students participate in food and toy drives as well as worldwide emergency relief efforts, to name a few. In these ways our children experience firsthand the joy and importance of giving back.

“Doing for others and caring for the welfare of others earn the reward for which the whole world is seeking. That reward is happiness.”

Mae Carden
By building a foundation that sets proven standards of excellence, CARDEN ARBOR VIEW SCHOOL prepares our students for future thresholds of learning. Indeed, CARDEN alumni continue on to excel in high school, in college, and in their chosen careers with...

...life-long friendships...
“The purpose of the CARDEN Method is to develop well-adjusted, capable, confident, eager, alert, courageous, generous, just, compassionate, courteous, happy children who have a sense of humor, who will be able to develop their ingenuity, who base their actions on the idea that we come to life to make a contribution to the welfare of the human race: children who realize that happiness is a by-product of doing for others; children who realize that the goal of living is not the amassing of money or possessions, but the attainment of the desires of the heart.”

Mae Carden