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11th Grade

What my charter school means to me

Special. It is an adjective that comes from the Old French word *especial* meaning “powerful” or “mighty”. Its English definition is “distinguished by some unusual quality”. Synonyms for the word are exceptional, remarkable, notable, and outstanding. We use the word to describe and define things that are exceptional or of importance to us in our lives. A special gift, a special talent, a special event, or a special someone. The word special turns everything from ordinary, to extraordinary. And with all my knowledge on the word, I can easily say that special is exactly what my school is to me.

What my school lacks in size, it makes up for in character. It instills spirit and pride into both student and staff which makes for a great learning environment. We’re always looking to be part of new things in our community such as fundraisings like our Cougars vs Cancer events, helping out with our homeless shelter, or raising funds to buy mosquito nets for women and children in Ghana, Africa. This allows parents to be a part of our Crossroads family as well. In addition to these external interests, internally, Crossroads allows for students to express their interests by allowing for the creation of all sort of different after school clubs. It allows for people with similar interest and beliefs to come together and express themselves. Students’ clubs range from Crochet to Equestrians. Right now, we even have a Metal Music club.

My school also excels in academics. We have very excellent teachers on all fields that attend to the students in a way that allows every class to move as a group, but each student to be able to excel individually. We have many opportunities for students who want to go beyond the schools’ grounds such as different college classes through online, Baker College, and our city’s own Ferris State University. Our GPA’s and ACT scores have been in the upper percentile compared to the surrounding schools as well as other charter schools in the area.

Crossroads is also very strong in its unity. Teachers, Parapros, and students all come together to help each other out in different areas. This past year, we struggled with switching teachers due to personal reasons. And for each class that has a long term sub, it also gets an enormous amount of support from students who were in the class previously, to teachers who have some knowledge on the subject, to even our own principal. Everyone in my school works together as a unit which in the end, helps everyone move forward smoothly and equally.

So Crossroads is a really outstanding place. From its exceptional character, to its excelling academics, to its strong ties in unity, it really shaped me into the student I am today. It really is something special. And so my school may not look like much with its white walls and blue lockers. However, the longer you’re there, the more you’ll understand how special a school it is, and the more you’ll want to stay.