

## **OUTLINE OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF ACADEMY OF POLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN BARTLETT**

Academy of Polish Language and Culture located at St. Peter Damian Parish in Bartlett has a desire to teach the Polish language, history and geography of Poland and Polish cultural aspects, as a result of the need to sustain Polish tradition and forming a national identity amongst children and young Poles in the United States of America.

In addition, the school would like to maintain connections with the Polish-American ancestors in order to prepare them for life in a democratic, multi-ethnic, and multi-religion country by enabling them to understand the specific roots and a deep knowledge of themselves as descendants of Poles. The Polish school will achieve these objectives through a properly structured program (see the objectives set out below) and by promoting the idea propounded (set forth) by patron, St. Peter Damian (Damiani) 1007-1072. As doctor of the Church, the guardian of morality and a canon law, and a reformer, he mainly struggled relentlessly for the preservation of moral rights and preach the truth, that effort and work ennoble a man; it purifies him. Moreover, he was also part of the most prolific writers of his time. He wrote both the hearing of the Church, as well as poetry.

**Academy of Polish Language and Culture** intends to open a:

- **preschool** for children 4-5 years old
- **kindergarten** for children 5-6 years old
- **primary school** eight years
- **high school** three years

### **The objectives of Academy of Polish Language and Culture**

#### **I. The tasks for the preschool:**

- Development of the Polish language learned from home, including vocabulary oriented to the outside world of the child and what is close to the child (i.e., what is outside the home: on the street, in the store, at the park, in the city, etc. including the vocabulary of Polish and American reality) and the syntactic relationships, enabling the construction of sentences and communicate in Polish language, at the intellectual and emotional level, characteristic for this age group;
- Teaching of Polish language, if the child does not speak in that language;
- Introducing to child, accordingly to his ability, Polish traditions and customs of the underlying Polish culture;
- Introducing Polish culture through learning rhymes and songs designed for this age group and familiarization with the Polish children's entertainments in order to establish the basis for future emotional contacts with peers in Poland;
- Religion education.

#### **II. The tasks for the kindergarten:**

- Educational games such as the concentration of attention by listening to stories in Polish, which are the heritage of Poland and the World;
- Developing dexterity, enabling learning to write;
- Expand vocabulary through fun and syntactic structures that enable communication in spoken language (in Polish) at the level of basic contacts (your child should be able to say who he is and what it's called, what he likes to do, where he lives, what his parents do, where his

grandparents live and what they do, tell us about your family (without revealing the secrets of family life), what are his duties, what he does at home and at school);

- Developing speaking skills
- Religion Education.

### **III. Tasks for primary school:**

#### **1. Early education classes 1-4**

- As above, plus:
- Learning to write in Polish;
- To develop language skills in Polish spoken and written language, consistent with the age and emotional level of the child;
- Introduction to Polish culture by consulting with selected, the most characteristic products of material and spiritual culture;
- Develop knowledge about Poland and Poles;
- Religion Education.

#### **2. Primary education classes 5-8**

- As above, plus:
- Systemic and systematic development of language skills of the Polish language;
- Introduction of Polish history and development of knowledge on this subject;
- Introduction of Polish geography and development of knowledge on this subject;
- To develop knowledge about cultural achievements of Poles and wake respect for the achievements of Polish ancestry;
- Religion Education.

#### **3. High school classes 9-11**

- Strengthening of respect for the spiritual achievements by Polish ancestors;
- Systematization of knowledge on the grammar and Polish literature learned in primary school obtained through the guide and advancement of knowledge on this subject;
- Systematization of knowledge on the history and geography of Polish learned in primary school obtained through guide and advancement of knowledge in both areas;
- Preparation for exams and certification exams;
- Religion Education.

The tasks of Academy of Polish Language and Culture will be realized by employing prepared and properly trained teachers, with cooperation of the Association of Polish Teachers in America and universities in Poland. The design of programs for school will be based on the document: School Curriculum for Polish students studying abroad, which is the assumption of the basis for creating local curricula of the Polish language, history, culture, geography and knowledge of contemporary Poland, and the creation of teaching materials to education in this field, issued by the Ministry of National Education in Warsaw in 2010 and developed in collaboration with relevant institutions in the U.S. The core curriculum for Polish students studying abroad is given in Annex.