

# Top 5 Questions

Q1: Is the reason for how advanced Champion students are compared to the other top-tier schools because the school focuses exclusively on academics? What about activities beyond academics?

A: Not only is the academic progress of an average child likely in the top 0.1% of students in the US, even the co-curricular program probably ranks among the top schools in the country. We want our students to grow up to be the leaders of tomorrow with strong critical thinking, communication, teamwork and leadership qualities.

Inculcate Self Confidence	Critical Thinking Skills	Quantitative Reasoning Skills	Public Speaking	Debate	Spanish or Mandarin
<b>Among the most Well-Rounded programs in the US</b>					
Coaching in Team Sports	Performance Arts	Visual Arts	Computer Science (JAVA)	Team Projects for STEM Competitions	World-class Academic Progress



Q2: Is the reason for how advanced Champion students are, because, the kids take home a lot of homework?

A: Champion students receive unmatched levels of extra help in school. A combination of inculcating good work habits and rigor in school and the extra help that students receive, mitigates the need for a lot of homework.

The homework load of a Champion student is probably 1/4<sup>th</sup> (in some cases, 1/10<sup>th</sup>) load of a student in a typical elite school. We want our students to have rich lives after school where they have the time to explore wide array of activities and find their passions.

A child who is bogged down by homework likely does not have time to just stare into thin air and just think and exercise his/her imagination and creativity.

Additionally, excessive reliance on homework can create bad habits such as: a child not paying attention or completing their work in school and instead relying on parents' help or after school tutoring to understand the concepts.

## Top 5 Questions (cont.)

Q4: Why is the kids' academic progress so advanced?

A1: People only think our students are extremely advanced because they compare it to the wrong reference point: what an average teacher can teach a large group of students with a diverse set of motivations, learning abilities and family support systems. Why not instead focus on what a specific child is capable of learning if treated and supported as an individual. People grossly underestimate what kids are capable of learning because of the tyranny of low expectations and weak support systems.

A2: If one works backwards from what it takes to get into one of the top 50 universities in the country (not just the Ivies, MIT, Caltech, Stanford), one would realize that only about 2-3% of the High School graduates per year would get a spot at these Universities. Is it safe to focus on being average? The students who get into these schools tend to get started very early on a path to world-class education, be it in school or through supplemental home schooling.

Q3: Why are there negative reviews on Yelp?

A: Over the past year or so, about 20 parents have posted positive reviews on Yelp. However these reviews keep on disappearing. Only the negative reviews seem to stick around. We urge the parents to visit the school and look at the results achieved by the students in a stimulating, nurturing, stress-free environment. Additionally, we appeal to logic. How is it possible that on the one hand, the overwhelming majority of students' progress would rank among the top 0.1% of students in the US while taking home very little homework while on the other hand the Yelp's reviews are a true reflection of the school?

Q5: What are some of the recent student achievements?

A: Here are a few achievement that stand out:

- a. 100% of Champion's continuing 4<sup>th</sup> graders are learning either Pre-Algebra or Algebra-1 as a natural part of their academic progress.
- b. 7 Champion Middle school students won awards at the Synopsys Science Faire. 2 Champion projects were finalists for the Synopsys Outreach Foundation's (SOF) The Next Breakthrough in Science & Engineering award – that's 2 out of 8 finalists and hundreds of other entries. Even the top SOF award was won by the Champion project. To provide a further perspective, Champion student population is probably less than 0.1% of the population of the schools represented at the Synopsys Science Fair.
- c. 70% of Champion Pre-KG students (at the end of '12/'13) were fully proficient in reading and could perform multi-digit ++ and – with borrow and carry.
- d. 100% of the students above 1<sup>st</sup> grade received coaching and had the opportunity to participate in the National Math Kangaroo competition in '12/'13 and 12 of them won awards.
- e. Champion is the only school that we know of where 100% of Middle School students had the opportunity to participate in various regional Speech & Debate competitions. The bonus is that they won 13 awards during the '12/'13 school year. However, the important thing is not the awards, it is participation and learning important skills that are crucial later in life. Some of the most accomplished people tend to have debated during their school years. It is also one of the most sought after extra-curricular activities by top tier universities.