



**E-cademy**

**825 Ivanhoe St., Denver, CO 80220**

**Grades: k-5**

**Director: Reginald Holmes**

**Manager: Carolyn Woods**

The Hope Online Learning Center at E-cademy was established to address the growing concerns of area parents about their children's educational deficiencies. Reverend Reginald Holmes, Learning Center Director, believes, "Hope Online gives us the opportunity to make a difference in the educational lives of the children in our community. We are able to help them build strong academic foundations as they forge their paths to graduation."

Located in the Montclair neighborhood of Denver, many of the Hope Online families are considered low-income and work multiple jobs, making school participation difficult for parents. However, to help keep parents connected, E-cademy conducts parent conferences regularly, and Hope Online regularly communicates with parents about academic progress, attendance and behavior.

Hope Online's unique model affords students individual attention, customized learning plans created by a highly qualified Hope Online teacher, and the flexibility to work at their own pace in a safe environment with dedicated Learning Center mentors. Rev. Holmes attests, "Hope Online's curriculum allows students the ability to master each lesson before they move to the next. Whether they struggle with a particular lesson or need to be challenged by advancing through additional lessons."

Carolyn Woods, Manager and Mentor at E-cademy, notes, "Overwhelmingly, parents appreciate the progress their students are making and attribute it to the individual attention that their children receive."

At enrollment, most Hope Online students at E-cademy are a couple years behind. "One student was two years behind grade level when he enrolled. Now, after two years at Hope Online, he is grade-level proficient and on track to graduate," notes Mrs. Woods. Another student, diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, came to Hope Online at E-cademy after struggling with behavior and attendance in her previous school. "Because of the individual attention and the smaller adult to student ratio, she is attending regularly and has made substantial academic and social progress," reports Mrs. Woods.

Rev. Holmes adds, "If it were not for Hope Online, many of the students at E-cademy would probably be three to four grade levels behind by the time they reached high school. They might still get diplomas but that's often just a piece of paper. We need to prepare our kids, nationally and globally, and Hope Online's graduation requirements prepare our children to compete with their suburban counterparts." He continues, "At E-cademy, our mentors send a message to the students: that we can be tough, but we care- about them and their futures. They have already seen and heard a lot of negativity, and they did not receive the attention that they needed in their previous schools. What can make the greatest difference for them is showing them that with hard work they can succeed."

## **Learning Center Administration**

### **Reverend Reginald Holmes – Director**

Reverend Reginald Holmes has dedicated himself to educating youth and helping them build strong academic foundations. He is committed to closing the achievement gap and increasing the graduation rate for urban minority youth. Prior to founding E-cademy, he worked as a teacher for the Indianapolis Public School system. Rev. Holmes earned a Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education from Indiana University and a Master's degree in Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary both in Indianapolis, IN.

### **Carolyn Woods – Manager**

For over 35 years, while working for the United States Post Office, Carolyn Woods volunteered to mentor youth in her community. She worked tirelessly to assist students as they struggled to succeed. In 2005, she joined the Hope Online Learning Center at E-cademy so she could have a direct and positive impact on the achievement gap in her community. Mrs. Woods earned an Associates of Arts in Early Childhood Education from the Community College of Aurora in Aurora, CO.

## **Hope Online Teacher**

### **Candice Steele – Hope Online Teacher**