



**Little debbie's Dream Learning Center**  
**14281 E. Exposition Street, Denver, CO, 80012**  
**Grades: k-5**  
**Director: Matt Smith**

Established in the fall of 2007, Little debbie's Dream Learning Center (LDDLC) offers access to online education to elementary students. Little debbie's Dream has been a family owned and operated childcare center committed to strong basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills thereby providing children a firm educational base since 1996. "Two years ago, we decided to expand our program beyond preschool," says Matt Smith, Learning Center Director, "after researching our options, we chose to partner with Hope Online in order to continue the advanced pace learning style that we created for our younger children."

LDDLC is located near the Town Center at Aurora. "Elementary school is a crucial time to build the educational foundations that will carry students throughout their academic careers," says Mrs. Judy Robbins mentor of LDDLC. "Our students come from a variety of backgrounds and circumstances, and most are considered at-risk."

Hope Online and its Learning Center model offers students the opportunity to access online education, in an environment that cultivates confidence and excitement about learning. With Hope Online's individualized learning plans, assigned and monitored by a highly qualified Hope Online teacher, a unique curriculum is customized for each student based on skill set and aptitudes. This approach to learning allows students to work at their own pace and, combined with one-on-one attention from dedicated teachers and mentors, fosters student progress.

"Not only are the students familiarizing themselves with technology at an early age, but they are also engaging in rigorous reading, writing, and arithmetic lessons. "In only a short time, we have noticed learning progress among the students," says Mrs. Robbins. "Students are moving along really well in their classes. In fact, we are so pleased with the progress of the students we have expanded the Learning Center to accommodate student until the fifth grade."

Mrs. Robbins attributes this student success not only to the students' hard work, but also to the dedicated Hope Online teachers and LDDLC mentors. At LDDLC, the staff goes above and beyond to make learning fun and engage the students. Hope Online teachers and LDDLC mentors are creative in the presentation of learning material. Armed with information on teaching best practices, the Learning Center staff is better-equipped to help at-risk students lay the groundwork for a successful future. "It is important that students develop excitement about learning at an early age," says Mrs. Robbins. "The odds of success may be stacked against many of the kids, but education has the power to change their lives for the better."

## **Learning Center Administration**

### **Matt Smith – Director**

Matt Smith has managed Little Debbie's Dream Daycare since 1997. Mr. Smith believes that the children of the daycare are best served by naturally progressing to kindergarten in a familiar environment. Mr. Smith has over ten years of experience working with children, preparing them for academic success.

### **Judy Robbins - Mentor**

Judy Robbins received a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Valley Forge Christian College in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania and is currently working towards a Masters in Curriculum Instruction from Colorado Christian University. She possesses nearly 20 years of experience in the areas of education and teaching. Mrs. Robbins actively pursues additional knowledge pertaining to childhood education and regularly attends professional development seminars.

## **Hope Online Teacher**

### **Barbara Pagano – Hope Online Teacher**

Barbara Pagano is a highly skilled and effective Colorado licensed teacher who brings years of experience to Hope Online. She has worked for the Cherry Creek and Jefferson County school districts, primarily as a secondary education teacher. Ms. Pagano earned a Bachelor of Arts in Home Economics Education from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO and a Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education from the University of Colorado at Denver in Denver, CO.