



MICDS

MARY INSTITUTE AND SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL Curriculum 2023-2024

GRADE 5

GRADE 6

GRADE 7

GRADE 8

LANGUAGE ARTS/ ENGLISH

Evidence-based creative writing and quick writes centered on literature coupled with developing writer's notebook, original poetry, and memoirs in a workshop format in an effort to reinforce grammar and vocabulary

Five paragraph essay, literary analysis, quick writes, literature circles, vocabulary and grammar mechanics all surrounding one major novel per term coupled with oral presentations based on book talks

Exploration through reading and grammatically correct writing, the intentional use of all literary devices and author's style in short stories, poetry and literary works; expansion of critical thinking/ inferential questioning through discussion and oral presentation techniques

Well-articulated, evidence-based and personal writing using novels, plays, graphic novels and published essayists as resources with an emphasis on building the sophistication of argument and expression in both speaking and writing

MATH

Singapore Math approach and problem solving through number theory, multiplication, division, decimals, fractions, ratio, percent, algebra, data and probability, basic geometry, and real world connections through math

Rational numbers, patterns, fractions, decimals, percents, alternative methods of computation, data and statistics, algebraic reasoning and using algebra to solve real problems

Operations with signed integers, algebraic expressions and equations, ratio and proportion, data and statistics, geometric properties of angles, rates of change, perimeter and area of 2D shapes, surface area and volume of 3D shapes

Properties of exponents, linear equations, graphing lines, systems of equations, geometric constructions, congruence and similarity, irrational numbers, properties of quadrilaterals, data and statistics

SCIENCE

PHYSICAL AND EARTH SCIENCES:
EV3 Robotics, Astronomy, Force & Motion, STEM Challenges

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:
Waves, Energy & Matter, Ecosystems, Weather/ Climate

BIOLOGY:
Cells & Body Systems, Infectious Disease, Genetics, Natural Selection, Coding/Simulation

INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS: Matter, Reactions, Energy, Electricity and Magnetism, STEM Challenges

SOCIAL SCIENCES/ HISTORY

WORLD HISTORY AND CULTURES:
Examination of the growth and development of human communities and cultures, with a focus on Egypt, Greece, the Indus River & China

UNITED STATES HISTORY & CULTURES:
Exploration of the development and evolution of the United States, with an eye to the impact of the past on 21st century America

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES:
Thematic investigation of both history and the current day with a focus on understanding multiple points of view

WORLD HISTORY 1300-1900:
Study of the major civilizations and developments from 1300-1900, with a focus on the emergence of an interconnected world

WORLD LANGUAGES

Using familiar topics, students learn to express themselves and understand the Spanish language. Course includes emphasis on the study of Hispanic Culture

Students expand their ability to communicate and understand the Spanish language while gaining a deeper understanding of their own culture through the study of Hispanic culture

Students start a two year sequence in the study of French, Latin, Mandarin or Spanish. Emphasis on building confidence with the language, basic grammar and vocabulary, and study of culture

Students continue the study of language chosen in 7th grade: French, Latin, Mandarin or Spanish

ARTS

Quarter-year rotation of Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Drama, and Studio Art

Band, Orchestra, Choir for full year
Drama and Studio Art for one semester

Band, Orchestra, Choir for full year
Drama and Studio Art for one semester

Students choose between Music (Band, Choir, Orchestra) OR Bundle of Drama & Studio Art

PHYSICAL

Fitness and sports based curriculum. See other side for details.

TECHNOLOGY

ONE-TO-ONE TABLET PC PROGRAM IN GRADES 5-8

RESOURCES:

Interactive wireless projectors & touchscreen LCD displays, Virtual Language Lab, Video & Still Cameras, Audio Books, 3-D Printing and Modeling, Laser Engraver & Cutter, CNC Machines
Creativity and Innovation, Communication and Collaboration, Research and Information Fluency, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving and Decision Making, Digital Citizenship, Operations and Concepts

CURRICULAR APPLICATIONS:

Digital Imaging, Video and Audio, Computer Programming, Digital Storytelling, Digital Cartography, Web Design, Computer Modeling and Simulations, Web and Database Searching, Website Evaluation, 3D Design, Productivity Tools

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EXPERIENCES

Theme for the year - Stepping Up

Mini-Camp on campus
Challenger Learning Center
Adventure Night
Digital Fabrication
Maker Space
5th Grade 360
Monarch Butterflies

Theme for the year - LEAD

Family History Projects
Passport Day
Passion Projects
LEAD Projects
Laumeier Sculpture Project/Field Trip
Hawn State Park Camp Celebration
RAM Time
TEAMWORK Day

Theme for the year - Embracing Change

Team and Community Building
LEAD
Overnight Camping
Ram Impact Summit
Community Service
Peer 2 Peer Mentoring
Spring Social Gathering

Theme for the year - Becoming a Young Adult

Community Service/Field Trip
Ram Impact Summit
Peer 2 Peer Mentoring
Spring Celebratory Field Trip
Eighth Grade Celebration
Spring Dance

FOR GRADES 5-8

Arts Fest, CHADS, ERB testing, Fall Spirit Days, Fall and Spring Concerts, Helping Hands, Homecoming, PreventEd, Puberty Education, Purposeful Parenting, Spring Fling, Sunrise Sessions, Talent Show, Turkey Train

STUDENT ACTIVITIES 3:15-5:00 p.m.

Open Art Studio
Athletic Development
Anime Club
ASAP

ASU
Book Clubs
Board Game Club

BSU
Chess Club
Chinese Calligraphy

Community
Leadership Council
Dance Club

Drama Club
Girls on the Run
Knitting & Sewing Club

Lego Robotics Team
Maker Club
Math Team

MICDS Rambassadors
Playback Theater
Prism

SASU
Science Fair Club
Spelling Bee Club
7th/8th Grade Play

AFTER SCHOOL

7th and 8th Grades: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Squash, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball, Water Polo, Wrestling