

Intermediate School Model

Sixth Grade



What is the Intermediate School concept and specifically how will the Intermediate School function?

- I. **Child Centered** – At the Intermediate School level learning will be geared to meet the needs of each student while stressing rigor in a supportive and connected learning environment. The Teacher role is to help students inquire, formulate questions and solve strategically and think critically in an age of information. The program delivery is formatted after a K-8 concept which includes less transitions and greater student-teacher connections.
- II. The Intermediate Schools will focus on applying **21st Century Skills** through all the content areas.
- III. **A hand picked teachers and staff** that are highly qualified according to NCLB with a keen interest in working in a smaller learning community and an ability to work in a child-centered approach with intermediate level students.
- IV. Intermediate Students will be challenged and supported in all content areas with a **highly qualified two person teaching team:**

Sixth Grade Schedule Highlights

Before Core Classes	Breakfast, Support and Enrichment Opportunities
Up to 90 minutes	Literacy—Reading/Language Arts—reading, writing, speaking and listening (Teacher 1)
Up to 45 minutes	Social Studies—World Cultures/History (Teacher 1)
Up to 45 minutes	World Languages or Double Dose
30 minutes	Lunch/Recess/activity period -- 6 th grade only
Up to 45 minutes	Performing Arts Class (all year every day) or General Music/Life Skills (each one semester)
Up to 45 minutes	PE alternating with Information Technology Media/ Art Foundations (each one semester)
Up to 90 minutes	Math - differentiated to promote acceleration (Teacher 2)
Up to 45 minutes	Science - Integrated physical science through science themes (Teacher 2)

After Core Classes Opportunities: see other side

Teacher 1 will teach the language arts/reading block and social studies.

- **Language Arts/Reading** lessons will use a balanced literacy approach to reading instruction for each child based on assessments integrating 21st Century communication skills. Each day children will read, speak and listen. They will also write using the Six Traits of Writing model.
- **Social Studies** lessons will use the literacy skills developed in Language Arts/reading to support understanding of themes that relate to World Culture and history.

Teacher 2 will teach the math and science block.

- **Math** lessons will be leveled appropriately for each child based on MAPS assessments focusing on the areas of algebra, geometry, number reasoning and problem solving.
- **Science** lessons and curriculum will apply math strategies through physical science concepts which are found in themes of earth, environmental, life, oceans, plant and space sciences.

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During other times of the day, Intermediate School students at the various grade levels will have opportunities to **apply 21st Century skills**.

- **Art** will be offered alternating gym for one semester in 6th grade and as a fine arts option in 7th and 8th grade.
- **Fabrication** class will support the 7th grade 21st century technology emphasis.
- **FCE** class will focus on 21st century skills including consumer economics, family living and nutrition science.
- **Fine Arts Block** will allow students to develop and pursue **music** options in 6th and fine arts options including performance music in 7th and 8th.
- **Success Highways** student services program which will help students make good choices and provide a structure for goal setting towards high School and post high school options.
- **Technology/Information Media** class will offer students the opportunity to develop 21st century skills using software, publication and media formats on the computer.
- **World Language** class will offer 6th, and 7th grade Intermediate students the opportunity to begin level one and 8th graders levels I and II of a world language for the 2008—2009 school year.
- **Physical Education** skills will build personal wellness skills and promote an understanding of health literacy.

After School Programming to meet the needs of Intermediate age children. *Research shows that upper grade school children who are involved in activities are more highly motivated and academically successful.*

“Reach for the Stars”—age appropriate after school program similar to SAFE.

Academic enrichment and support—similar to PASS

Special Interest Areas under development include:

Art	Chess/Checkers	Future Cities	Math Activities
Music Activities	Science Fun	Public Speaking	Dance Activities
Web Page Design	Computer Activities	Recreational Games	

Regular Intermediate School Extra Curricular

- **Athletics:** *please have your son/daughter see a physician during the summer to fill out physical forms before the beginning the 2008-2009 school year.*
 - **Cross country**— boys and girls—September/October
 - **Basketball**—boys—November/December
 - **Basketball**—girls—January/February
 - **Wrestling**—boys and girls—February/March
 - **Track**—boys and girls—April
- **Drama**
- **Band, Chorus and Orchestra**
- **Pom Poms** (Recreation Department)
- **Student Council**
- **Video Club**

Incentives/Activities—Monthly

Celebrations that support academic achievement, effort and citizenship will be a part of the Intermediate School’s culture. These will include:

- **Assemblies and/or weekly/monthly celebrations**
- **Student of the Month**—academic, effort and citizenship
- **Honor Rolls** will be kept on a quarterly basis
- **Lock-In**—an activity filled evening of fun to celebrate positive academic and behavioral choices
- **Recreation dances and activities are available through the recreation department**

Parent Partnerships

Parents will be kept in close communication through:

- Website
- Newsletters
- I-Campus communication of learning progress
- Email communication of announcements
- Email communication between teachers and parents

Parents will be invited:

- Work as a team with the Intermediate School staff to ensure that each child is meeting his/her learning goals.
- To participate in the Intermediate School Learning Community
- To join and become involved in the PTA
- To volunteer for special events including: “Back to School Day”, assemblies, celebrations dances, lock-in, ect.