

Inspired Teaching 8Ya cbgrfUhc b School’s curriculum is founded in best practices from the highest-performing schools across the country and grounded in the principles of inquiry. Our academic curriculum is designed to ensure that every student not only achieves high levels of academic achievement but also develops skills of empathy and serves as a change maker in the community. We want to empower our students to be leaders who think about and care for the world in which they live. Teachers work together to facilitate students’ explorations of a curriculum that demands students to ask and answer complex questions, to solve real world problems, and to master a range of content areas and skills so that they can confidently express themselves and defend their ideas in a variety of contexts.

### Literacy

Using the Read|b| and Writ|b| Workshop approach to meet the Common Core State Standards, students learn to |b|h|f|U|W|k| h| h| h| h| g|U|g|f|Y|X|Y|f|g|U|b|X|U| h|c|f|g| and they are given a variety of developmentally appropriate learning experiences.

In Early Childhood classrooms students develop a love of literacy and language through story, song, poetry, and play. Beginning in kindergarten students are engaged in Read|b| and Writ|b| Workshops, meaning that students have daily opportunities to practice reading and writing with varying levels of support and scaffolding through small group and individualized instruction. The workshop approach allows students to read high-interest books at their “just-right” reading level. Students also participate in guided reading groups k \ YfY teachers coach comprehension žXYW|b| UbX Zi YbW skills using leveled texts.

Students also engage in exploring grade level literature as a class. They learn not just how to comprehend a text, but also how to unpack the text, search for subtext, and develop their ideas about a text in writing and in class discussions.

### Math

The K-8 math curriculum is based on Common Core State Standards. The core resource in grades K-8 is Eureka Math, a program built around the idea that students need to know more than just what works when solving a problem—they need to understand why it works. This helps students become not merely literate, but fluent thinkers in mathematics.

In preparation for studying the Common Core, preschoolers and pre-kindergarteners are immersed in a world of mathematical exploration that includes counting and sorting, comparing and measuring, and using data to tell stories about the world around them.

### Science

Students in all grade levels study science throughout the year. The curriculum is based on the Next Generation Science Standards. Students are offered an inquiry-based program that provides students with hands-on opportunities to engage in authentic scientific inquiry that require increasingly complex cognitive skills. Students in 6th-8th grades tackle STEM challenges in addition to their inquiry-based science program.

Social Studies (K-4)

Social Studies instruction is integrated into the balanced literacy framework. Through individual and group projects, shared reading, read-alouds, and topic-specific independent reading and writing, students develop social studies knowledge and skills as they grow as readers and writers.

Students in kindergarten through fourth grade learn about ways that groups and communities are governed, geography and topography, change over time, and the relationships between cities, states, countries, continents, and international organizations.

History (5-8)

Our history curriculum teaches students how to conduct research and convey information in a thoughtful way. Throughout the year students tackle a problem/solution-based examination of a historical social justice issue.

In 5th grade & 8th grade, students study United States history. In grades 6 & 7 students explore topics in World History and their relation to US politics and economics. All students learn the skills of a researcher in order to answer the complex questions posed to them and which they develop independently.

Health and Physical Education

Physical education classes integrate physical education activities ranging from yoga and dance to soccer and basketball, as well as health education that includes topics such as nutrition, growth and development, sleep, and productive problem solving. Classroom teachers further students' knowledge of nutrition and health by supporting school-wide healthy eating and decision making.

Art

Inspired Teaching School is an arts integration campus. Working in partnership with the Phillips Collection, a private museum, all students benefit from the opportunity to take art classes and have the arts integrated across the curriculum. In the artists' studio, students participate in a model for art instruction call Teaching for Artistic Behaviors (TAB), in which students are taught how to select from and use a range of materials. Choice-based art education regards students as artists and offers real choices for responding to their own ideas and interests through the making of art.

Social-Emotional Learning

Inspired Teaching School's social curriculum is based on a nationally-recognized program, Responsive Classroom. Our social curriculum is designed to help students learn to respect themselves, others, and their materials. We teach students to solve conflicts peacefully and to develop social skills that allow them to work independently and in diverse groups. As they move through the academic curriculum, students develop the skills of empathy required to become innovators: observation, listening, self-expression, problem solving, and creativity.

Spanish

Spanish instruction integrates language acquisition goals with cross-cultural studies in which students are exposed to the histories and traditions of Spanish speaking communities. Our Spanish program is designed by teachers to build on personal connection and engagement with students. Middle School students learn Spanish using a standards based program that combines the study of language and culture using technology.