

SEEALL

PS/IS 180

Students Educationally Enriched as Learning Leaders



Parent Guide

Education Inspires Leadership

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Program Philosophy:

It is the goal of SEEALL to instill and nurture leadership in youngsters to best prepare them for the challenges of the twenty first century.

Program Inspiration:

SEEALL was inspired by an article in the New York Times written by Bill Gates, suggesting that we design methods of instruction in order to best prepare students for what will be required of them as future leaders.

Program Goal:

The goal of SEEALL is to meet the requirements of the core curriculum for ALL students, while engaging them as active participants in learning experiences through a discovery approach, building leadership qualities through cooperative learning, individual and group presentations, public speaking, and ongoing autonomy in all areas of instruction, including the arts and technology.



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SEEALL Objectives:

- To identify and nurture students' talents, and to build them into the curriculum
- To regularly include music and the arts into the curriculum
- To gear instruction to meet the individual needs of all students with emphasis on their talents
- To group children amongst grades weekly to engage in Enrichment Clusters (Interest groups focused on areas of talent and study e.g. cooking, drama, archaeology, etc.)
- To engage parents as active partners within the Learning Leaders' Program
- To design an open classroom setting where students are explorers, presenters, and agents of creativity
- To establish corporate and community partnerships to offer students experiences with the outside professional world
- To enhance media and technology throughout the curriculum
- To engage in a variety of field trips linked to units of study, in order to bring the curriculum 'alive'
- To establish partnerships with literary and musical artists

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- To encourage children to create books, scripts, and media masterpieces of their own.
- To institute a foreign language program across the grades, and related cultural studies.

**IF IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD,
THEN PARENTS, AS FIRST TEACHERS, ARE
NEEDED AS EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS WITHIN
SCHOOLS...**



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Program Components:

Parent Involvement:

Parents are encouraged to become involved as educational partners. They are asked to first register as Learning Leaders, and then to volunteer as classroom assistants, parent tutors, career/learning links (assisting the school through resources within their professions), and field trip and project facilitators.

Curriculum:

Students on each grade will be taught the regular curriculum prescribed for the grade with greater enrichment and creativity linking talents to instruction.

For Example: While engaging in a class study of New York City, the artist might paint a mural, and the engineer might create a model of the city.

Enrichment Clusters:

Students will be grouped across the grades once weekly, to partake in special units of study beyond the regular curriculum, serving as explorers and reporters, while linking their talents to the project

For Example: Cooking Clusters, Dance Clusters, Musical
 Clusters, Science Clusters, Geography,
 Archaeology, Foreign Language, Engineering, Civics, Etc.



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Open Classroom:

While the teacher remains the ultimate authority, the classroom is designed as the students' forum. This means that the students will be constantly engaged in movement, group work, individual and group presentations, planning and interest centers. The teacher serves as the facilitator, like a conductor of an orchestra, monitoring the learning process. Teachers will teach all necessary skills as first lessons, and will encourage children to branch out, applying, and building upon what they have learned for future lessons.

Corporate and Community Partners:

Through class trips and networking, students will be encouraged to become acquainted with community and corporate professionals who will, in turn, become part of the educational design. The purpose herein, is to expose students to the professional world, while building the necessary components of leadership in youngsters. The goal of SEEALL is to produce future leaders. Experience with the professional world will help to foster leadership skills.

Media and Technology:

SEEALL offers enhanced experiences in media and technology, linking both to all units of study. Weekly visits to the computer lab, in conjunction with classroom computers will help shape children's knowledge and proficiency in technology. Students will be encouraged to create programs of their own, and to complete on-line assignments. As celebrations of class units of study, students will be encouraged to create films featuring unit highlights, and class productions.

Field Trips:

Students will engage in a host of field trips linked to units of study. Field trips will serve as learning culminations and springboards. Students will take what they have learned on Field Trips, and apply them to future lessons, creating displays, presentations, scrapbooks, and journals. On select Field Trips, arrangements will be

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made for students to visit sites with their families first, so they might serve as tour guides for class visits.

Music:

A strong emphasis is placed on the study of Classical Music and Classical Composers. In addition, modern music is featured and appreciated with an understanding that its roots, most often have stemmed from classical masterpieces. Students will also be made to understand that Classical Music is all around us.. on television, in movies, commercials, and within the media.

The Arts:

Students will be enriched in The Arts within all areas of instruction. An understanding and appreciation of ballet, opera, literary masterpieces, drama, aesthetics (all forms of art), performing arts and fine arts will be built into the curriculum.

Literary and Musical Artists

In order to strengthen the Arts Program, communication with authors and artists will be made, and partnerships will be encouraged. Authors and artists will be invited to the school to further enrich students in written and aesthetic expression.

Students As Authors:

Students will write books, scripts, and presentations of their own, in an effort to create young prodigies.

Foreign Language:

Foreign Language will be taught daily. Students will also receive instruction in related cultural studies, including exposure to literature, art, history, cultural sites, and restaurants related to the foreign language being studied.

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Nurturing Talents:

The talents of all students will be addressed and built upon within the curriculum. Students will use their talents to enhance lessons, and to serve as leaders while engaging others in the talent.

For example: If a group of students is painting a mural, the artist will be the leader, instructing everyone else in the painting process.

All of the other painters might have other talents, for which they will serve as a leader when presenting that talent.

Therefore, all students engage in all talents, with their own being unique to themselves.



SEEALL PARENT GUIDE

It is an absolute delight to welcome you to this unique program! We look forward to engaging you as partners in the education of our children.

Together we will enhance creativity and build leadership in the students while bringing learning to life, making everyday a celebration, an educational voyage to new horizons with limitless discoveries to be made!

Very truly yours,

Gary M. Williams
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