

## Visual & Performing Arts (K-12\*)

The Visual and Performing Arts Magnet schools are designed to develop the interests, skills and abilities of students in the arts. Educational experience and training are designed to challenge and develop the skills of the artistically talented student. The arts are presented as an integral part of a strong academic program; and students receive specialized studies in the visual arts, drama, music and dance.

The focus of the program is on enhancing academic achievement and encouraging excellence in the development of a student's special talents. An interdisciplinary approach will be used to link all areas of study with the arts.

Please Note: Students entering Northwest School of the Arts will go through an audition/portfolio assessment and interview process for placement purposes. Previous training is desirable, but not required.

- Instruction in art, drama, music, and dance
- Music, visual arts, dance and drama studios
- Performance opportunities at all levels
- Visiting artists and guest speakers
- Suzuki violin lessons (K-3)
- Photography lab and instruction (7-12)
- Creative writing

### Schools:

- Chantilly Elementary (K-5)
- University Park Elementary (K-5)
- Northwest Middle and High School (7-12)\*



\*12th grade will be added in 1996-97 if there is sufficient demand; otherwise it will be added in 1997-98.

## International Baccalaureate (K-12)

The elementary IB program stresses the development of strong academic skills and high academic achievement. Foreign language instruction is a vital part of each school day. Awareness of the world is increased through a strong multicultural emphasis and a community service project.

The Middle Years IB program is a broad and balanced program that has an accelerated curriculum which focuses on foreign languages, English, math, humanities,

science, technology, the arts and physical education. To ensure a high degree of success, students should be fluent in written and oral English expression and be proficient in mathematics.

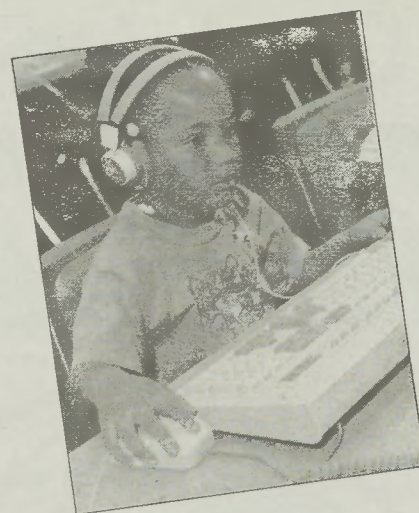
The general objectives of the IB program are to provide students with a balanced education; to facilitate geographic and cultural mobility; and to promote international understanding through a shared academic experience. Only schools officially approved by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) are authorized to offer the curriculum in high school and to present candidates for examination. The student who satisfies the IBO's requirements demonstrates a strong commitment to learning, both in terms of mastery of the subject content and in the development of the skills and discipline necessary for success.

- Higher level math courses
- Required foreign language instruction
- Extensive research assignments required
- Emphasis on advanced study skills, including time management in response to a syllabus, goal setting, advanced research skills, test-taking, note-taking and independent study
- Instructional methods typically encountered at colleges and universities
- A rigorous, challenging intellectual climate

### Schools:

- Druid Hills Elementary (K-6)
- Reid Park Elementary (K-5)
- Davidson IB Middle (6-8)
- Marie G. Davis Middle (6-8)
- J. T. Williams Middle (6-8)
- Harding High (9-12)
- Independence High (9-12)
- Myers Park High (9-12)

Please Note: Entering ninth grade students must have completed Algebra I and one full year of a modern foreign language. Entering tenth grade students must have completed Geometry and two full years of a modern foreign language. Students who have difficulty maintaining academic success must be willing to participate in mentoring/tutoring programs available through the IB program.



## Traditional/Classical (K-9)

The Traditional/Classical program offers an enriched and highly structured education that assists students in developing intellectual skills and concepts for strong academic achievement.

The program is offered within an overall environment in which self-discipline, regular attendance and punctuality are stressed. The program concentrates on excellence in reading, writing, oral expression and mathematics and emphasizes geography, history, civics, economics and vocabulary development.

- Rigorous teaching of spelling/study skills
- Strong mathematics program
- Preparation for Senior Exit Essay/Project
- German, French and Spanish in middle school; Spanish or French offered K-6
- Classical literature emphasized
- Emphasis on citizenship and heritage

### Schools:

- Myers Park Elementary (K-6)
- Elizabeth Elementary (K-6)
- Druid Hills Elementary (K-6)
- Hawthorne Middle (7-9)
- J. T. Williams Middle (7-9)

## Foreign Language Schools (K-8)

Students who enroll in one of the Foreign Language programs have the unique opportunity to become fluent in a second language while still mastering English. Although there are slight variations at each school, all operate under the principle that it is easiest to learn a second (or third!) language at a young age. Students are "immersed" in a new language by receiving their core instruction in the second language from bilingual teachers. From the first days in kindergarten, they become familiar with the new language and by fifth grade they will be spending half of their school day working in English and the other half of the day in their second language.

At the middle school level, students will attend Smith Academy of International Languages. Students can choose from a range of elective courses which emphasize different cultures, gain a global perspective and uplink with students around the world.

Most elementary language immersion schools offer a late immersion class to older elementary students who want an intensive language training program.

- Summer enrichment camp
- Emphasis on technological literacy
- Strong program designed to assist parents

**French Immersion** • Reid Park students follow the International Baccalaureate curriculum. Regular immersion is offered in grades K-3 and late immersion in grades 3-5.\*

### School:

- Reid Park Elementary (K-5)

**Spanish Immersion** • The Spanish Immersion program is offered in K-2; late immersion for grade 3.\*

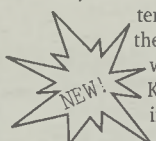
### School:

- Collinswood Elementary (K-3)

**Japanese Immersion** • In order to ensure full mastery of both English and Japanese, students in the Sedgfield Japanese Immersion program will have English introduced early. Kindergartners will receive 80% of their instruction in Japanese and 20% in English. Beginning in first grade, half the day will be spent in Japanese and half in English.

### School:

- Sedgfield Elementary (K-1)



**German Immersion** • Bruns Avenue Elementary operates on a year-round calendar. (See Year-Round) Bruns offers German Immersion in grades K-5, and a late immersion class for grade 3.\*

### School:

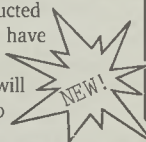
- Bruns Avenue Elementary (K-5)

**Academy of International Languages** • Up to 50% of the daily instruction will be conducted in a second language and students will have the opportunity to study a third. While the Academy of International Languages will serve as a continuation for students who have completed an elementary language immersion program, Smith will also provide a stimulating environment for those who have an interest in learning a second language and learning more about the world. Smith Middle offers accelerated learning through an advanced, non-graded curriculum.

### School:

- Smith Middle (6-8)

\*Applicants for the late immersion should be reading on grade level or above.



**All Language Immersion elementary schools will add a grade a year until they reach grade 5**