

MUSEUMS MAGNET COMPONENTS

SOUTHSIDE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

VISION

Southside Preparatory Academy Museums Magnet School is a unique and challenging museums-based learning environment which enables students to:

- Explore
- Examine
- Experiment
- Exhibit

5 Pillars of Magnet Schools

1. Diversity
2. Innovative curriculum and professional development
3. Academic excellence
4. High quality instructional systems
5. Family and community partnerships

We are a visual arts magnet program within a school- home and magnet heterogeneously mixed.

Magnet application window:
October-January each year
Magnet students selected through a lottery system at the District level in March.

CONTACT

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OBJECT-BASED INQUIRY

- An understanding of how to interpret objects creates positive links between today's people and other societies throughout the world past and present.
- Objects provide a concrete experience that aids or illuminates abstract thought.
- Objects can provide creative and emotional stimulus.
- Everyone can use objects.
- Set activities at which children will succeed and remove barriers to learning.

VISUAL THINKING SKILLS (VTS)

- Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) is a teaching method that improves critical thinking skills through teacher-facilitated discussions of visual images.
1. What's going on in this piece/ picture/ image ?
 2. What makes you say that?
 3. What else can we find?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Promote inquiry/ Focus student learning/ Foster critical thinking
1. How does habitat influence how we live?
 2. How can you describe the value of a digit?
 3. How does where we live effect how we live?
 4. How do maps tell stories?

MUSEUM VISIT/LEARNING EXPEDITIONS (FIELD TRIPS)

- Pre and Post visit activities connected to the curriculum (use Interactive Notebooks/Composition books)
- Pre-visit planning session with grade level/ lead teacher
- Goal: minimum of 1 per semester
- Sign up parent chaperones as volunteers early
- Minimum 1:10 student/adult ratio (Some may allow extra chaperones)
- Only approved chaperones with a MDCPS volunteer number may attend- they register through PARENT portal
- Field trip forms require TWO signatures
- Must have copies made prior to the day of the trip
Leave originals with roster- take a set of copies with you.
Review chaperone responsibilities prior to the trip
- Students must have ID/lanyard with their first name, school name, and school phone number
- Take attendance before leaving school, and update the field trip roster with students marking those absent or not attending.
- All students are expected to attend- the LE are extension of learning.

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