

Elementary Component

Overview

Several years ago Saddlebrook Preparatory School incorporated elementary school into the academic program. The demand for an academic program for elementary students was influenced by older siblings attending Saddlebrook Prep as well as an interest for intensive training at younger ages.

The dynamics of the elementary component is unique in that it is a one-room schoolhouse. Although students' in grades 3-5 are all housed in one room, they receive a great deal of individualized attention based on academic needs. The curriculum for the core subject areas is similar to that of the public school system. Our Math curriculum is Scott-Foresman/Addison Wesley. The Social Studies and Science curriculums are Houghton-Mifflin based. More specifically, we use the Discovery Works series for Science and We the People-Explore Our Land series for Social Studies. The Reading and Language curriculum is comprised of the Harcourt series as well as author studies. There is a very strong writing component that is integrated into all subject areas for each grade level. Daily journal writings along with other types of formal writings and poetry are all part of the elementary curriculum.

Although the school day at Saddlebrook is shorter than that of a public school, the number of teaching hours is the same. This academic program is unique and has proven to be very successful for our students.

Goal:

It is our goal to provide students a learning environment that enables students to progress both academically and socially. We strive to meet the individual needs of our students while engaging them in hands-on, group and individual activities.

Objectives:

- Develop critical thinking skills
- Teach responsible citizenship
- Expand and integrate knowledge across all curriculums
- Develop research skills

- Locate, develop and uses oral, print or visual information for a variety of purposes
- Will identify and apply mathematical concepts and processes to solve problems
- Recognize responsibilities and opportunities in the workplace
- Manages personal and other life choices

Strengths:

- Small class size
- Individualized instruction
- Shorter days, more intense instructional hours

Recommendations:

- Need more classroom resources in order to teach 3 grade levels
- More opportunities for elementary level activities outside of the classroom
- More books in the Media center for elementary aged students