

I. Mission, Vision, Core Beliefs, Philosophy

Mission:

KSAS will educate the whole child through integrated arts and science to nurture meaningful learning.

Vision:

A kaleidoscope reflects the many ways of thinking that are the foundation of the KSAS model in which each of the arts, as well as inquiry science, are lenses to explore and understand the world.

KSAS engages the whole child--building creativity, critical thinking, deeper understandings, and intellectual habits of mind.

Through the commitment of the KSAS community, students reach their full potential and

- become adults who value and support the arts and sciences,
- live enriched lives,
- continue to engage in social action, and
- contribute to the world around them

Collaboration

- Lens for understanding the world
- Global citizens who value and support creative and critical thinking that is developed through engagement with the arts and inquiry science
- exercises persistence and self-discipline

Core Beliefs:

- Arts are the essence of being human. They promote metaphorical thinking and are the way we interpret our world.
- Children are naturally curious learners with diverse strengths, needs, interests, and talents.
- Children thrive from a well-rounded education. The arts and science are taught with rigor equal to core subject areas.
- The inquiry process connects every discipline to create a deeper understanding.
- Process is more important than product.
- There is no such thing as mastery. There is always more to learn.

Philosophy:

Our core beliefs have shaped our school philosophy. We believe, through arts and science as our cornerstone, we are able to nurture life-long learners by:

- Addressing the characteristics of the whole child: physical, emotional, intellectual, social and cultural
- Creating an environment that allows for movement, hands on, experiential opportunities to address diverse learning styles and multisensory strengths
- Providing a safe, aesthetically pleasing environment

- Utilizing a process of inquiry, dialogue and reflection
- Working collaboratively with both adults and children to expand thinking and learning
- Integrating thematically across all subject areas with attention to standards and objectives
- Exploring subjects in-depth for meaningful connections
- Selecting appropriate topics, activities and materials that support meaningful learning and authentic assessment
- Facilitating positive attitudes and behaviors
- Guiding each child to take personal responsibility for their learning
- Preparing children to become participating citizens in society
- Establishing partnerships with students, staff, families and community to foster a positive learning environment