



## 8th Grade Magnet Program

The USD 475 Innovations Academy offers alternative programs for students in middle school and high school. The State of Kansas fully accredits all schools.

USD 475 schools offer a rich, culturally diverse educational environment. USD 475 is a lighthouse district in the area of staff development, curriculum, and instruction.

The Eighth Grade Magnet Program is focused on an innovative curriculum, academic excellence, and family and community partnerships. The curriculum promotes higher-level cognitive thinking and uses project-based learning. The magnet program uses state and district standards in all subject areas. Additionally, the curriculum is clear and transparent for families so they can fully engage in the learning of their students.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How was my student selected?

*We looked at student test scores, grades, and attendance.*

### Will transportation be provided?

*Yes. Neighborhood busing will be provided. Parents will be notified of the pickup areas prior to the start of school. Students who live inside of the 2½ mile radius will not receive transportation.*

### What classes will be offered at the Eighth Grade Magnet Program?

*Math, Science, History, English, Physical Education, Elective (Reading/Math Intervention), and JAG.*

### Can my student participate in extracurricular activities at his/her base school?

*Yes, as long as they meet school and state requirements for participation.*

### Will my student be required to wear a uniform each day?

*Yes, students will be required to wear a dark blue polo shirt, khaki pants, and white, black, or brown shoes.*

### Will the Eighth Grade Magnet Program follow the same district calendar as other schools?

*Yes, all district schools will follow the approved academic calendar.*

### What are school times?

*School will take place from 7:50 AM to 2:50 PM.*

### Are there special rules at this program?

*Yes, a student will return to his/her base school if the below requirements are not sustained.*

- *Maintain a B average (3.00 GPA)*
- *95% attendance rate*
- *Receive no more than two level-3 referrals*

### Will there be a handbook or contract?

*Yes, every parent/student will receive a handbook. Parents and students must also sign and follow all aspects of the program contract.*

### Will students take any classes at their base school?

*No. All classes will be scheduled through the Eighth Grade Magnet Program. Students will take four core classes (Math, Science, History, and English) and three electives. A special education teacher and two paraprofessionals will also be assigned to the program if needed.*

### How will the students be assessed for progress?

*Students will participate in quarterly assessments to ensure they are increasing their knowledge. Parents will also receive progress reports every three weeks.*

### How are parents expected to participate?

*Parents are expected to be involved in the learning of their student(s). Attendance at the below meetings are required. If parents are unable to attend, students will return to their base school.*

- *Attend an August orientation meeting*
- *Meeting with staff during the first semester*
- *Meeting with staff during the second semester*
- *Attend a year-end meeting*

### Will after school tutoring be provided?

*The Boys and Girls Club of America will provide after-school tutoring and activities until 5:30 PM.*

### Will students need to purchase a new P.E. uniform?

*Students will wear their base school P.E. uniform.*

### What supplies are needed for the upcoming year?

*Teachers will notify students of supplies needed to complete projects and assignments at the start of the year.*

### Will students have a computer?

*Yes. The 1-to-1 initiative for student computers is standard throughout USD 475.*

### Will parents be able to access grades and assignments in Skyward?

*Yes.*

## The Future of Education Starts Here at the Innovations Academy

The USD 475 Innovations Academy is home to an innovative academy structure program for grades 9-12, the EAGLES Alternative to Suspension program for grades K-12, and the 8th Grade Magnet Program.

