



Seabury Middle School Program Information



Key Features:

·Integrated, experiential learning formed around real life issues and challenges facing the community.

·The community becomes the classroom – students will work in the classroom as well as make use of local resources and experts in the field



·High level of academic rigor – learning goes beyond memorization of information to focus on analytical reasoning, primary source research, and creative thinking

·Emphasis on the development of strong communication skills, both in working with local experts / organizations and in sharing the results of study in culminating projects



·Focus on leadership development as well as the development of character traits including responsibility, integrity and compassion

·A balanced program that includes experiences in the humanities, science, math, the arts and technology

To learn more about Seabury Middle School, contact Sandi Wollum, Head of School, at 253-952-3111 or by e-mail at director@seabury.org.

Seabury Middle School Program Concept – Executive Summary

Seabury Middle School will provide a unique educational experience for gifted students in grades 6-8. The innovative, dynamic program will continue Seabury School's long tradition of offering academically challenging, developmentally appropriate, relevant learning experiences specifically tailored to meet the intellectual, physical, social and emotional needs of gifted students.

The centerpiece of Seabury's middle school program will be integrated, experiential, project based learning experiences in which the community will serve as an extension of the classroom. Students will work with teachers to form the questions as well as discover the answers as they participate in multidisciplinary units of study formed around real issues and challenges facing both the local and global community. Study and research will take place both in the classroom and through partnerships with local organizations and leaders, allowing students to work side by side with local experts. Courses of study that are not fully addressed through multidisciplinary units, such as math and French, will be taught as stand alone classes in order to ensure that students exiting the program meet and exceed requirements for the most rigorous high school programs.

Projects created by students, both individually and in groups, will be developed not only for the purpose of assessing student learning, but, whenever possible, will be designed to be of service to the community. Seabury Middle School will become known as a "private school with a public purpose," a place where students can discover and develop their gifts and then use them in service to the community.

The middle school years are a time of tremendous growth, change and challenge for children, and can be especially difficult for gifted children who may find themselves lacking adequate academic challenge and seeking their place in the world around them. Seabury's middle school will be a place where students are engaged in dynamic learning experiences that are academically rigorous, experiential, and grounded in relevant, real life experiences. Seabury's middle school program will be designed to foster academic excellence, as well as to develop skills of independence, leadership, service, selfconfidence, and selfdiscipline. When students work together on a project they care about, they have the opportunity to collaborate, work as a community, and learn from each other. Sharing projects with community partners will develop communication skills and will inspire students to seek excellence in their work. Seabury middle school's program will also emphasize character development focusing on integrity, responsibility and compassion.

Eighth grade students exiting Seabury Middle School will be prepared to meet and exceed the demands of all of the area's most rigorous high school programs. Students will have developed analytical and creative thinking skills that will prepare them for challenging high school and college work. Having worked closely with experts in the community in a variety of fields of study, students will have gained valuable experiences that will help them begin to make college and career choices during their high school years.

Gifted children have the potential to become our next generation of leaders, innovators and creators. Seabury's middle school program will develop the skills, knowledge and behaviors that will lead to lifelong learning, engaged citizens and creative problem solvers.