

About Magellan

At Magellan, ACADEMICS COME FIRST.

Students who adapt quickly here are those who have mastered the material at their previous school at or above grade level. While we cover the North Carolina Standard Course of Study, our teachers use every opportunity to enrich the learning experience for their students.

Knowledge is often obtained through a combination of seeing, hearing, and doing. Textbooks are used in moderation, if at all. The emphasis is not as much on memorization, but on taking the information presented and analyzing, synthesizing, evaluating, and, finally, applying it in a new way. A typical classroom size is 16-18 students. The school day at Magellan is divided equally into the core subject areas: math, science, language arts, and social studies. Students of varying levels work together in each classroom except math, where they are grouped by ability. Homework is often time consuming and thought provoking. Our approach prepares students for success in high school and beyond.

At Magellan, experiential learning is a core value.

Students new to Magellan would benefit from having the social preparedness to participate in numerous educational excursions, including overnight trips. Our students take an average of one field trip per month. Beginning in fourth grade, most grade levels take two major overnight trips per year, one in the fall and one at the end of the school year. These trips are from 2-3 days in length. Students also routinely participate in hands-on experiences such as projects, debates, discussions, and simulations. Therefore, students who thrive at Magellan would benefit from an eagerness to explore new ideas and the ability to work well in groups and independently.

At Magellan, our success depends on a strong partnership with our parents.

We ask that our parents do all they can to volunteer a minimum of one recess/lunch duty per month. Teachers rely on volunteers to supervise their students during lunch and recess, enabling them to plan lessons and hold conferences. Parents are also needed to accompany students on both day and overnight field trips. Periodically, the classes will need parents to volunteer for an activity or send something in from home. Every Wednesday, parent volunteers are needed to set up and serve pizza as a fundraiser for grade level field trips.

Magellan parents have many responsibilities which help ensure the success of their student and the smooth functioning of the school. First, we ask for your support, especially at home. Many students (especially third and fourth graders) need guidance and support in organizing their materials, structuring their time, and learning to use that time wisely. Occasionally, long-term projects are assigned that must be completed at home. Parents are asked to guide their child in planning and implementing that plan. Setting aside a quiet time and place for homework is essential. Studying for quizzes and tests is something that you can also do to help your child prepare.

At Magellan, “specials” and technology instruction are integrated into the curriculum.

We believe art, music, and physical education are very important. These subjects

are integrated into the curriculum regularly. After school tuition-based classes in these areas are also available. We have four computers in each classroom and access to two computer labs and two mobile labs in the school. Technology skills are taught in conjunction with assignments in curriculum areas. Magellan employs a full-time instructional technology specialist to assist classroom teachers in planning and skill acquisition.

At Magellan, mutual respect is paramount in our small, familial environment.

Our core values, promoted through our “Campaign for Character” education program, include respect, kindness, inclusiveness, responsibility, trustworthiness, encouragement, and courage.