

As part of the St. Rita School mission, we ensure high levels of learning for all students. The following details our curriculum programs.

ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Daily Writer's Workshop

Built on the best practices and proven framework of writing instruction, we immerse our students in powerful daily units of study based on the research of Lucy Calkins. We engage our students in daily writing about real and imaged experiences and events using effective technique, well chosen details, and well structured event sequence.

Daily Guided Reading Groups

Our teachers understand the importance of differentiation and provide our students with highly targeted, scaffolded, small-group reading instruction designed to propel students toward developing reading proficiency.

Phonics Dance

Our PreK - 2nd grade students participate in daily Phonics Dance, a researched based/brain based program designed to provide a daily spiral approach to phonics. Children are introduced to community learning by using movement, chants, and rhymes to become familiar with the variant sounds that are part of our language.

National Geographic (Grades 3-5)

A reading and language arts program built to meet the demands of high educational standards through the use of an interactive digital platform. It includes engaging reading resources with authentic libraries, motivating main selections, and relevant, meaningful practice. Reach for Reading provides content-based selections through cross-curricular themes that focus on either science or social studies topics. With Reach for Reading students will increase comprehension, fluency and knowledge, and have access to age appropriate National Geographic texts, videos, and images.

Collections (Grades 6-7)

An interactive digital platform, provides students the in-depth instruction needed for developing student abilities to analyze complex texts, determine and explain evidence, reason critically, and communicate clearly. Along with solid instruction, students have the critical modeling, scaffolding, guided practice, and independent practice in resources such as Close Read Screencasts, and Student Edition integrated standards lessons.

Differentiated Instruction

we recognize that all students learn in different ways. For all subjects, especially Reading and Math, learning skills and standards are assessed before and during the learning process in order to determine appropriate instructional needs for each student. Also, teachers learn and take into consideration each student's learning style(s) in order to differentiate instruction.

Peer Learning Groups

Neuroscience research suggests that the brain seeks social interaction. Therefore, instead of students being mere spectators in the classroom, our teachers design and facilitate instruction that allow students to seek relevance and meaning of content through peer collaborative groups.

STAR assessment

A reading and math diagnostic is administered to every student three times a year in order for our teachers to determine where students may need remediation prior to regular units of study. The diagnostic is also used to determine where students may need extensions in learning.

Response to Intervention

a one-hour block is provided four to five times a week in all grades, where the instruction of new content stops and each student is provided instruction based on their individual needs. The classroom teacher, the school's classroom interventionist, as well as, other paraprofessionals are available to work with small groups of students to either remediate skills, facilitate independent practice, or to extend learning.

Virtue Based Restorative Discipline

Virtue Based Restorative Discipline offers teachers, parents, students, and schools, a way to cultivate virtue while repairing harm from bullying and other hurtful behaviors. Each classroom holds virtue-based class meetings, or circles, to teach virtue and build community.

Opportunities for Family Involvement

Many opportunities for family involvement present themselves throughout the school year. Our PTO sponsors several enjoyable events such as Trunk-or-Treat, Fall Festival, and 8th grade events such as the Sunrise Breakfast and Sunset Dinner. Our faculty plans family educational events like math and literacy nights that are full of fun games and learning. St. Rita also takes part in the WATCH D.O.G.S. ("Dads" of Great Students) program where male role models are invited to spend a day at school to help in classrooms, play at recess, add extra security, and, most importantly, be a positive male role model in an educational setting.

iPad/Chromebook One to One Program

students in grades 6th – 8th are issued an iPad or Chromebook for learning. The program allows students to expand their critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills through digital resources. The program also promotes students creative thinking, as students are challenged to apply and demonstrate knowledge by producing digital products.

Teacher Professional Learning Communities

teachers meet in common planning periods in order to collaborate on shared student learning outcomes, to leverage their combined skills, and to collectively learn best practices in the classroom.

STEMScopes (Grades 3-8)

is inquiry-based science program that combines digital resources, supplemental print, and hands-on kits in order to increase student engagement, rigor, and student achievement.

Daily Instruction

PK-6th grades are self-contained classrooms. Our 7th & 8th grade, or Jr. High, students are on a block schedule and receive instruction from three separate teachers based on subject. All students attend weekly special area classes that consist of: Art, Music, Computer, Spanish, and Physical Education.



St. Rita Catholic School Mission Statement

The St. Rita School family celebrates diversity by committing to high levels of learning for all students, so that they become productive and virtuous citizens whom proclaim our Catholic faith.