

PARENTS GUIDE TO THE CORE CURRICULUM

Introduction

The North Bellmore School District seeks to maximize the achievement of all students in order to meet and exceed the New York State learning standards by providing high quality, research-based instruction in a nurturing and challenging environment. We believe the partnership between home and school is a key component of our effort to help children develop to their fullest potential. To enable parents to be effective partners, we have developed a parent's guide for each grade outlining major topics in the core academic curriculum. This parent's guide represents the collaborative effort of teachers and administrators across the district, and exemplifies the district commitment to home-school partnership.

Special Area Subjects

In addition to the core curriculum, the program is enhanced by special area subjects, which are an integral part of the instructional program in North Bellmore. Interdisciplinary connections are maximized by ongoing communication between classroom teachers and special area teachers.

Technology

The mission of the North Bellmore instructional technology program is to strengthen and support the teaching and learning process through the integration of technology into the curriculum. The goal is to have students acquire the skills necessary to live, work and learn in a society that relies on technology. Computer skills are not taught in isolation but are developed progressively through repeated use and application in various contexts that are aligned with national and state learning standards. In addition to enhancing the core curriculum, students are given the opportunity to master software that provides a foundation for computer literacy and leads to their growth as independent learners.

Library

The Library Media Center provides students in North Bellmore with a variety of resources to support the core curriculum. Students have the opportunity to choose books and other media for both information and entertainment. The district provides a sequential library media program to help students develop an understanding of available materials, and an appreciation for literature of all genres.

Music

The goal of the vocal music program is to provide all students with opportunities to experience the language of music through singing, movement, instruments, drama, listening and creating, and to teach the skills needed to facilitate these activities. We hope to instill in all students a deep and abiding love of music and an awareness of musical styles. In addition to vocal music, students may also choose to participate in chorus, band and orchestra.

Art

The goal of the art program is to enrich the lives of our students. We encourage creativity through the use of a variety of art materials and the development of a range of skills. Our children learn to appreciate art and the work of artists, and to understand the heritage of many different cultures.

Physical Education

The goal of the physical education program is to provide students with knowledge of the benefits of physical activity. Students will gain an understanding of spatial awareness, balance, body control, coordination, safety, and sportsmanship. They are encouraged to develop life-long skills that will improve self-esteem and will enable them to interact socially with others. In addition, students are encouraged to develop an awareness of the opportunities available to them within the community in order to engage in physical activity.