

# Middle School Unit

## What We Believe

### **Problems can be solved.**

Middle school students are primed to problem solve, developing queries and conducting research to address issues and seek knowledge. Students make personal connections to content and are intrinsically curious. Seeing an issue and seeking a solution - whether inside or outside the classroom - now that is a life skill.

### **Ownership and responsibility matter.**

Middle schoolers can and should accept responsibility for their learning and set short-term and long-term personal and learning goals. Students are self-advocates and rely on teachers for support for their learning needs. Teachers model, teach and guide students to regulate emotions and make good choices, taking responsibility for their learning and their actions.

### **Leadership requires action.**

Middle schoolers are developing a sense of community consciousness and social justice, primed to lead. Our teachers encourage students to choose actions that help others and reflect the teachings of Christ. As the leaders in our PreK - 8 school, our middle schoolers take pride in their work, make a difference and lead through action.

**Graduates attend the best high schools in the area - Catholic, public, and selective enrollment - and go on to the finest universities prepared to succeed.**

## What We Teach

- Skills, knowledge and behaviors that prepare students for high school and beyond
- Understanding nuances of reading and writing, including purposes of devices and language usage
- Critical thinking abilities, especially in the areas of math and science
- The beauty of learning something new - a life lesson
- Guide students on their faith journey, including through the sacrament of Confirmation

### **The advantage of time.**

To help students make deeper connections with their teachers, their peers, and their learning, our 4-8 grade students participate in “extended” or “block” scheduling, which results in a double-period of math and a joint literature/ language arts period. While this helps us meet or exceed required instructional minutes, the real benefits go beyond time on task. Because more time and flexibility - for individualized attention and getting to know each student, for small group lessons and peer collaboration, and for taking a deeper dive into a topic rather than racing through it - **results in more effective instruction, more buy-in from students, and, ultimately, increased student success.**



ST. GILES SCHOOL

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St. Giles School exists to foster the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical growth of our elementary school children.

We are committed to a quality education that prepares our students to be people of faith, to be lifelong learners, and to serve the broader community.

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**Call. Email. Visit.**

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