

Kaleidoscope Academy Mission Statement

Kaleidoscope Academy strives to develop students who use higher order thinking skills to create beautiful, intellectual, and substantial products using a balance of fine arts and 21st Century skills.

Academic Guidelines and Expectations

Kaleidoscope Academy is an innovative middle school for adolescents who are interested in learning in a collaborative, inquiry-based, 21st Century environment. Kaleidoscope staff are well-versed in teaching diverse learners using a variety of instructional strategies, and meeting the needs of students with different skill levels and learning styles, within the same classroom.

This process is a collaborative effort dependent on cooperation between students, parents, and staff. The expectations listed below are in place to create the most effective learning environment possible for our students here at Kaleidoscope.

What you can expect from your teacher at Kaleidoscope: *The teachers at Kaleidoscope are eager to facilitate learning for our students and to watch them succeed. Our efforts are designed to help students succeed in middle school, as well as help them prepare for high school and beyond.*

- Uphold the philosophy and mission of Kaleidoscope Academy
- Update grades electronically on a regular basis
- Provide daily, open communication through Edmodo (web-based curriculum delivery), email, phone, etc.
- Offer MESH (Mandatory Extra School Help) or other form of work time with a teacher
- Schedule student-led conferences to help students share portfolio of work with family
- Offer meaningful opportunities to share and become involved in classroom activities

What we expect from our students at Kaleidoscope: *Middle school can be an adjustment even for the most diligent students. We will extend every effort to assist our students, expecting they will match our efforts.*

- Plan to complete grade-level quality work that reflects appropriate effort, turned in on time
- Participate in class, be an active listener, ask for help, and use work time productively
- Be prepared for class each day (supplies, agenda, SSR book)
- Use agenda planner/calendar *daily*
- Check school email account, the portal, and Edmodo on a *daily* basis
- Communicate honestly with both parents and teachers
- Use class time and MESH to keep up with work, using home time to finish, as necessary

What we expect from parents of Kaleidoscope students: *Communication between parents, students, and Kaleidoscope staff is a necessity to facilitate success for students. Active participation of parents in the educational environment is one of the strongest indicators of success for students.*

- Recognize and support the mission of Kaleidoscope Academy
- Expected attendance at an Open House/Orientation session to acclimate to school expectations and digital resources
- Participate in fall and spring student-led conferences, as well as two presentations of your choice (ie; *Food for Thought, National History Day*)
- Participate in a school fundraising effort (time or donation)
- Monitor school and classwork regularly via student calendar, Edmodo, and Parent Portal
- Communicate daily with your student regarding school
- Provide quality space, time and support to encourage completion of school work at home
- Prompt communication with teachers regarding student progress, concerns or questions

SST (Student Support Team) - The staff at Kaleidoscope recognizes and understands that some students require additional academic support and we are committed to providing this for them. Additionally, we are aware that students occasionally fall behind if they are not following the guidelines stated above, and this, in turn causes missing work and low grades. In the event a student should fall behind in his/her classes at KA, the student's team of teachers will meet to develop a plan to assist the student. The following SST steps will be followed, sequentially, if the student at any time has *two or more D's or one or more F's in core academic courses*.

1. Conference with student to develop a plan
2. Mandatory support time with a teacher
3. Contact with parents
4. Meeting with parents and student
5. Meeting with administration and team
6. Building Plan will be initiated (a written document to describe strategies in place to assist student)

*In the event the student has special education needs, the IEP will be the guideline for support.

Kaleidoscope Academy is proud to extend adolescent students an opportunity to learn in a creative, collaborative environment. We are confident that Kaleidoscope students, teachers, and parents can work together to assist struggling students develop a plan for appropriate progress and work production.

Once a plan has been in place and monitored over a designated period of time, if a student does not show improvement in effort, alternative options will be discussed, including a decision whether Kaleidoscope Academy is the most appropriate learning environment for the student. Should parents feel there are mitigating circumstances that have not already been addressed, they may request a meeting with the Kaleidoscope Governance Board to discuss the academic progress of their student. Our primary intent is to find the best educational environment for our students' learning styles.