

I.S. 281 – Joseph B. Cavallaro

“Full STEAM Ahead”

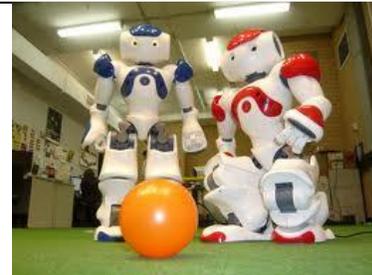
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It is our vision to help guide students in the development of their character and academic potential so they can become teachers, leaders, and dreamers. We provide rigorous, challenging, and content-rich educational programs so that when students leave I.S. 281, they are prepared for college and career. Staff, parents, and students effectively communicate, collaborate, and support our high academic and behavioral standards. We use PupilPath, the One Call Now telephone messaging system, and our school website for this purpose. We are a technology-rich school that provides a SmartBoard in every classroom, student laptops, computer labs, and robotics to cultivate a stimulating learning environment.

STEM – Technology

The STEM program with a concentration in Technology will focus on several major concepts relating to STEM and building 21st Century skills. The format of the class will center on PBL (Project-Based Learning) and students playing the role of creators. The content of the program will be rigorous, innovative and will cover, but may not be limited to, some of following topics:

- Digital Citizenship
- Computer Science
- Engineering Design Process
- Architecture / 3-D modeling
- City Planning /Design
- Video Game Creation
- Programming
- App Creation



STEM – Science / Engineering / Robotics

Fans of CSI, Criminal Minds, Bones, and NCIS rejoice! The 7th grade STEM Program will start off the year learning exactly how forensic scientists solve crimes. Hands-on activities will take the lessons away from textbooks and into real-life. Some of the topics covered will be: Blood Spatter, Fingerprinting, Handwriting Analysis, Ballistics, and Pathology.

The 8th grade students will explore a College Level Physics class while still in Middle School. We will focus on topics such as: Sound, Air Pressure, Surface Tension, Parachutes, and Electricity. Several lab activities will accompany each unit. The students will play a completely active role in solving the mysteries of Physical Science.

The second half of the year will be an Inquiry-based immersion into the exciting world of Lego Robotics. Students will work in teams to construct robots to do many imaginative activities.

STEM – Mathematics

The STEM Math Talent Program is a new and exciting program added to I.S. 281. Students will be learning in a brand new, state of the art computer lab environment.

They will get an opportunity to tackle the world of mathematics in a creative and interactive way, with the use of technology. In this advanced math program, students will be consistently ahead of the learning curve. They will be at least 2 years ahead of their grade level in terms of their mathematical knowledge. Within the 3 years, students will be learning high school topics such as trigonometry and integrated algebra. In addition to that, students will go through three years of vigorous SHSAT Math Test Prep to prepare them for the specialized high school exams they will take in the 8th grade.



STEM Science, Technology,
Engineering and Mathematics



Cavallaro's Fine Arts Programs

We put the "A" in STEAM

Ms. Maria Bender, Principal



Art

Students learn the fundamental building blocks of art and how it relates to all art media. Those that have prior experience with art will have opportunities to advance their level to suit individual needs, while beginners will be able to accomplish new goals.

A variety of art styles and materials will be used, such as paint, sculpture, collage and drawing. All grades will have the opportunity to display their work in school as well as outside if they are inspired to take the extra step to enter contests throughout the year.

Counseling is available for students who wish to build art portfolios for specialized high schools.



Dance

Through a formal study of a range of styles, techniques and genres, including their own social dances, students expand their perception of dance and demonstrate a variety of skills. They learn choreographic principles and demonstrate them in the studio through group tasks and choreography projects. The culmination of these tasks and projects occurs in our main stage dance productions in the auditorium, when the students apply their choreographic skills for the creation of the performance! Cavallaro has a beautiful dance studio in the basement of our school, with a brand new dance floor! All levels will be paid attention to during dance class through differentiated instruction. Our sequential dance curriculum builds from 6th grade through 8th grade, and the progression and capabilities of our students is beautiful to watch!

Vocal Music

Students in Vocal Music will not only learn how to sing, but they will learn the basics of Music Theory and how to read basic sheet music. This includes learning vocabulary and symbols that are not in English. We cover all genres of music during class, whether we sing songs from those genres or use songs as learning tools for class.

Students will be learning different skills and vocabulary as they progress through their years at Cavallaro. Each student is expected to participate in all performances, both day and night. All levels of singers are welcome to join; no prior experience is needed.



Instrumental Music

Instrumental Band is a performing ensemble that consists of brass (trumpet and trombone), Woodwind (flute, saxophone and clarinet) and percussion (snare drum, bass drum, bells etc..) instruments. During this class students will become literate in reading and interpreting music, while refining the skills needed to perform on their instrument. The class is open to all students beginning and advanced. All students who start in 6th grade and perform in the band for the 3 years will develop a strong foundation in instrumental performance, and can be taken through high school and college. Each student in the band program is equal and vital to the successful performance of music.

"One Band, One Sound." - Drumline



Fine Arts

