

Multiple Intelligence Learning • Collaborative Learning • Virtual Learning • Global Learning

IDEAL School students are equipped with the skills, personality, knowledge and understanding necessary to be successful, independent and assertive in the 21st century. At IDEAL School, we balance cognitive and emotional development and create innovative curriculum that challenges and inspires with dedicated teaching and mentoring. We utilize business professionals in the community to enhance understanding, and form partnerships to increase global competency.

Dream and give yourself the opportunity to envision a You that you choose to be." – Joy Page



"IDEAL is a utopian learning community".
Dr. Howard Gardner, Professor of cognition and education, Harvard University

"The school is revolutionizing education".

Paul Barnabei, author of *Top 20 Teens: Discovering the Best Kept Thinking, Learning & Communicating Secrets of Successful Teenagers*



"Our son's teachers found that he was very well prepared for high school and are impressed with his positive attitude, leadership skills and his academic excellence".

-- Carrie & Dan Wheeler, Wellington, FL



"Our daughter's years at IDEAL and DMS prepared her for the challenges of high school by teaching her how to learn and how she learns best. The concrete education she received has served her well as she is taking multiple honors courses and is receiving top grades. She is utilizing the learning skills, study habits, organizational tools and most importantly the knowledge of her personal learning style to achieve her incredible success".

-- Dr. and Mrs. Jamie Marchand, Wellington, FL



IDEAL and DMS international teaching team includes professionals with global teaching experience in North America, South America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



IDEAL School

Prospectus



Global Education for the 21st Century

IDEAL School is proud to offer a curriculum that provides young people with all the skills required to be a successful, independent and assertive learner for the 21st Century. The IDEAL School encourages learners to become optimistic, goal orientated risk takers, innovative problem solvers and compassionate thinkers.

Our curriculum is structured around the needs of the individual and society, not to 'teach to the test'. This freedom allows us to teach innovative, Multiple Intelligence lessons that secure knowledge and understanding while nurturing the skills necessary for success in our evolving global community.

Innovative Developmental Enriched Active Learning

IDEAL School

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- ART
- COMPUTER
- INQUIRY
- SCIENCE
- LANGUAGE
- ARTS
- MATH
- MUSICAL
- THEATER
- PHYS. ED.
- SOCIAL
- STUDIES
- SPANISH
- VIOLIN
- VIRTUES
- EMOTIONAL
- INTELLIGENCE
- GLOBAL
- EDUCATION
- INTERNET
- PARTNERSHIPS

IDEAL School educates students for the world as it is going to be...not just the world we are living in now.

Dr. Kris and Wendy Soderman
Founders/ Directors
IDEAL Preschool & Elementary
Dream Middle School

Teaching For Understanding

Rather than a single generalized ability called "intelligence", IDEAL believes that all children possess multiple intelligences (MI). IDEAL believes that intelligence is not fixed. In fact, recent brain research proves that intelligence can be strengthened and that stronger intelligences may be used to strengthen weaker ones. Not all students know, understand, and learn in the same way. Each student possesses all eight intelligences and it is IDEAL's goal to develop each intelligence to its full potential. Therefore, IDEAL's philosophy of education focuses on not only how "smart" a child is but also on how is the child "smart".

Philosophy / Rationale of the Program

The program is based on a multiple intelligence philosophy (Gardner, H (1983, 1993) and the belief that learning is an individual process. The program is activity-based and involves the children in independent work in small group activities and in entire class activities. The philosophy of early childhood education at IDEAL School is the result of particular beliefs about the nature of young children and the relationships that ought to exist between the child and each of the teachers, the educational program and the school.

Harvard Professor Howard Gardner tours the School with Principal Wendy Soderman



IDEAL School provides a supportive and stimulating environment where students use sophisticated forms of thinking that include generalizing, reasoning, predicting, classifying, comparing and contrast in order to seek evidence to support a hypothesis or idea. It is our goal at IDEAL School to teach for understanding (not just test scores). The professional teaching team will achieve this goal by:

- **Modeling:** The teacher will provide knowledge or insight by presenting a multiple intelligence lesson (relevant to students). The teacher will lead the learning process in an attempt to meet predetermined goals and academic objectives.
- **Inquiry:** The teacher will guide the students to solve a relevant problem by asking questions, investigating methods, and discussing cause and effect relationships.
- **Collaboration:** The teacher will facilitate meaningful discussions and active problem-solving to gain understanding of a given topic.

Emotional Intelligence

Emotional development (virtues) is an integral part of the IDEAL curriculum.

Our daily and weekly discussions encompass the five domains of "social and emotional" learning:

1. knowing one's emotions
2. identifying and expressing emotions
3. motivating oneself
4. recognizing and accepting emotions in others
5. maintaining productive relationships

Every day, IDEAL students enter the classroom to a caring and enthusiastic assistant and teacher. The first 20 minutes of school is reserved for celebrating the students' personalities and their social world (hobbies, friends, celebrations).

At IDEAL, emotional and cognitive topics are equally important.

Academics only occur after we share our personal lives, thoughts and personal concerns. Every day starts with an emotional "Heart to Heart."



Multiple Intelligences in action at IDEAL



Linguistic – Using the spoken or written word.



Logical-Mathematical – Bringing in numbers, calculations, logic, classifications or critical thinking.



Spatial – Using visual aids, visualization, color, art or metaphors.



Intrapersonal – Evoking personal feelings or memories or give students choices.



Musical – Bringing music or environmental sounds or set key points in a rhythmic or melodic framework.

IDEAL Multiple Intelligence lessons present academic concepts by...



Interpersonal – Evoking students in peer sharing, cooperative learning or large group simulation.



Naturalist – Incorporating living things, systems or nature.



Bodily-Kinesthetic – Involving the whole body or the use of hands-on experiences.

Language Arts

"TODAY A READER, TOMORROW A LEADER"- MARGERET FULLER

The Language Arts curriculum develops students' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through leveled and differentiated lessons. Lessons are structured with a particular literacy skill focus that is developed through 'big-picture' projects and goal-driven education.

The language arts curriculum at IDEAL integrates composition, literature, and instruction in the program. The rationale for this is to place genuine reading and composing at the center of the curriculum and place skill instruction within, rather than before, the love of reading and writing. There is a teacher and trained assistant in each class room to work with small groups during language arts.



After studying current research, IDEAL has implemented a Guided Reading Program. Guided Reading is small-group reading instruction designed to provide differentiated teaching that supports students in developing reading proficiency. The framework provides for rich language-based experiences with a variety of texts in whole-group, small-group, and individual settings. In guided reading, teachers help children extend their understanding and vocabulary through both oral language and writing. Students present their written ideas in four basic categories: Persuasive, expository, narrative and descriptive (incorporating poetry).

IDEAL will be purchasing a \$60,000 language arts program series for the 2011/2012 school year. The series is Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 'Journeys' including guided reading program authored by Irene Fontas. Further information can be found at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/guidedreading/>. The elementary teaching team is reviewing the program and customizing it to meet our school's standards and philosophy of teaching for understanding.

Mathematics

We employ Multiple Intelligence lessons that bring interaction and relevancy to math to build understanding, self-esteem and confidence. IDEAL math lessons actively engage learners, provide in-depth instruction, and translate math concepts to real-world applications. There is a teacher and assistant in each math class during instruction and skill practice.

Students who demonstrate a high level of mastery in mathematics are moved to the next grade level for math instruction and application.



"WE SEARCH FOR THE MEANING OF LIFE IN THE REALITIES OF OUR EXPERIENCES, IN THE REALITIES OF OUR DREAMS, OUR HOPES, OUR MEMORIES" -CHESTER HIMES

Social Studies

At IDEAL, we believe that if a young learner of this nation is to become a vital member in a global community, then social studies must be an essential part of the elementary curriculum. In a complex world that demands independent and cooperative problem solving to address social, economic, ethical, and personal concerns, social studies content is as essential to success as reading, writing, and computing.



IDEAL elementary students do not simply read a text and answer questions. Our students are taught, and expected, to question, evaluate, and challenge all informational sources. IDEAL teachers provide a learning environment and ask questions that stimulate decision-making, problem solving, and issue analysis. At IDEAL social studies is integrated with all the other curricular areas throughout the school day.

The purpose of IDEAL social studies is to enable students to understand, participate in, and make informed decisions about their world. The program allows children to explain relationships with other people, to institutions, and to the environment, and equips them with knowledge and understanding of the past. It provides them with skills for problem-solving and decision-making as well as for assessing issues and making value judgments. Above all, it integrates these skills and knowledge into a framework for responsible local, national, and global citizens.

At IDEAL, challenging multiple intelligence social studies instruction includes internet global partnerships, debates, discussions, projects, active role-playing, and simulations that are engaging and require critical thinking.

"THE IMPORTANT THING IN SCIENCE IS NOT SO MUCH TO OBTAIN NEW FACTS AS TO DISCOVER NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT THEM" – WILLIAM BRAGG SR.

Science

Students are taught and encouraged to make connections with world situations

- Apply math skills and review what is already known in light of experimental results
- Propose answers, explanations, and predictions
- Select appropriate tools to gather, analyze and interpret data
- Collaborate and actively problem-solve during thinking and learning

At IDEAL, inquiry skills and positive attitudes are modeled daily during all academics especially science and mathematics



The elementary Science curriculum is typically one year above grade level.

"I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY THAT COMPUTERS HAVE BECOME THE MOST EMPOWERING TOOL WE'VE EVER CREATED. THEY'RE TOOLS OF COMMUNICATION, CREATIVITY, AND THEY CAN BE SHAPED BY THEIR USER" –

BILL GATES

At IDEAL, our main goal is to provide students with an integrated comprehensive program that provides enjoyable and relevant lab lessons. The elementary program starts with computer basics and builds skill sets through:

1. lessons
2. hands on activities
3. projects

It is important to realize that technology curriculum is different from other subjects. Students will need to apply what they learn as a part of any discipline they pursue in college or career. The elementary computer curriculum spirals so students review, reinforce, and learn new skills in the 10 different technology areas:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| WORD PROCESSING | MULTIMEDIA |
| SPREADSHEETS | OPERATING SYSTEMS |
| DATABASES | KEYBOARDING |
| DESKTOP PUBLISHING | INTERNET |
| GRAPHIC DESIGN | WEB PAGE DESIGN |



Computer

We empower our students by integrating technology into all subject curriculums and by teaching Microsoft Office applications like Word, Excel and PowerPoint. These are the programs students will need to use in high school, college, and careers.

Spanish

"LA LENGUA ES LA PIEL DEL ALMA" ("LANGUAGE IS THE SKIN OF THE SOUL") – FERNANDO LAZARO CARRETER

Spanish lessons feature hands-on games, interactive activities, pronunciation, bilingual translation, grammar rules and cultural education through a range of MI activities.



This year the students will be communicating with Spanish-speaking children in Mexico and other Spanish-speaking countries through internet partnerships and forming global friendships.



Traditionally, people from the United States have not been obligated to learn another language besides English, but times have changed. Globalization has made it essential for our children, as leaders of the future, to be able to communicate with those from other countries to be economically competitive. Just as in the past, when people had to educate themselves to keep up with the technology during post-industrialization, people now increasingly need to be educated in languages to keep up with the digital world. The total number of people who are fluent in Spanish in the world is well over 400 million people.

Physical Education

"WHOLESOME EXERCISE IN THE FREE AIR, UNDER THE WIDE SKY, IS THE BEST MEDICINE FOR BODY AND SPIRIT" - SARAH LOUISE ARNOLD

The purpose of the elementary Physical Education program at IDEAL is to develop each student physically, socially, and emotionally through developmentally appropriate activities.

As our young students grow and develop, it becomes important to engage in fitness and movement skills, participate in cooperative team-building, and develop physically active habits which will promote physical, mental, and social well-being.

Course Content: Students' gross motor skills, fine motor skills, and kinesthetic awareness are developed through participation in a variety of movement-oriented games and activities.

The program includes a variety of team sports, physical conditioning and dance/rhythms.

Good health practices and cooperative social participation are taught and expected.

The Physical Education Coach, and at least one adult assistant, instructs and participates in each class.

Art

"ALL ART IS AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL. THE PEARL IS THE OYSTER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY" -FEDERICO FELLINI

The IDEAL art program cultivates self-expression, imagination and creativity as well as critical thinking and problem-solving skills. In a world in which ideas and information are delivered visually so frequently, we believe that the art program will help teach our students how to analyze and judge the meaning of images and learn how to use them to communicate their own ideas.

The IDEAL art program provides students with the opportunity to build self-esteem while expanding skills necessary to succeed in a competitive economic environment in our culturally diverse, visually oriented world. And most importantly... IT IS SO MUCH FUN!



The art program includes the study of many great artists such as Georgia O'Keefe, Monet, VanGogh, Picasso, Kandinsky and Rousseau. Students travel back in time in a virtual time machine to visit Georgia O'Keefe who asks them to help her paint some of her flower paintings because they are in such high demand. The abstract art of Wassily Kandinsky is studied through the construction of "concentric circles". Our amazing budding artists create beautiful impressionistic paintings like Monet's "Bridge at Giverny" and post-impressionist painter VanGogh's "Starry, Starry Night" and "Sunflowers". The students thoroughly enjoy the study of the Cuban artist Pablo Picasso and create 3-D "portrait sculptures" that creatively represent his famous artwork. During the study of Eastern art, the Chinese New Year dragon comes to life and weaves its way through all the classrooms lit by beautiful Chinese lanterns. The art studio is adorned with the students' ink paintings and beautiful Chinese water color paintings all while learning to leave their "heart prints" with every brushstroke.

Violin

"MUSIC AND RHYTHM FIND THEIR WAY TO THE SECRET PLACES OF THE SOUL" - PLATO

Violin instruction is given in small groups for grades Kindergarten-5 at IDEAL.

Playing an instrument can be one of life's most rewarding experiences.

A child's introduction to music will build lasting memories and provide access to a new, creative mode for acknowledging and expressing thoughts and feelings. While listening to, or playing music, students are lifted out of their ordinary frames of reference for a time and are immersed in the mood that the music evokes.

Also, contemporary science continues to demonstrate many cognitive benefits of violin musical instruction. Additionally, daily practice and weekly lessons also teaches children at a young age about discipline, patience, perseverance, and the ability to concentrate deeply and delay gratification. All our students can value these virtues in their lifetime. Let the music play!



Musical Theater

The IDEAL elementary musical theater program is based on the belief that every child can benefit from and enjoy music without formal instruction. Children learn music in an empowering and dramatic approach as they perform short musicals with scripts and songs that correlate with IDEAL's math, social studies, history, language arts, science and virtues curriculum.

This fine arts program reinforces the curriculum, sparks the learning process, crosses language and learning barriers, builds classroom camaraderie, integrates the curriculum, increases parental involvement in the school and is fun, educational and rewarding.

Second grade students will sing and perform the play, "Name That Internal Organ" since they are studying about the human anatomy in science. The musical plays make the curriculum jump out of the textbook and come alive multiple intelligence style!