

ABOUT THE SPECIAL PROGRAM

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS (CAPA)

West Middle School Grades 6-8 | **Auburn High School** Grades 9-12

CAPA is an audition-only program for artistically gifted and talented students. For the past 40 years, CAPA has encouraged passionate students to grow and pursue a lifelong love of the arts.

The CAPA program provides an in-depth fine arts experience in choir, band, orchestra, piano, dance, visual arts, media arts, theatre and technical theatre.

GIFTED ACADEMY

Thurgood Marshall Elementary Grades 1-4 | **Thurgood Marshall School** Grades 5-8 | **Auburn High School** Grades 9-12

Students thrive in the RPS 205 Gifted Academy, an accelerated program where academically gifted students develop their academic, creative, and critical-thinking skills.

The Gifted Academy includes many elective opportunities, clubs, and athletics to enrich the rigorous, inquiry-driven core instruction that defines the program. Learning extends beyond the classroom with field trips, partnerships and mentors, and volunteer opportunities to spark students' curiosity.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

IB Candidate School at Conklin Grades K-5

The IB program develops inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through education that builds intercultural understanding and respect.

MARIA MONTESSORI

Maria Montessori at Marsh Grades PreK-8

Montessori education starts with students' natural interests and activities instead of a traditional structured day.

More time could be spent on certain activities or subject areas, since students are encouraged to prioritize their own learning and activities. In turn, they learn project and time management.

Student independence is encouraged, with a focus on the whole student: social, emotional, intellectual and physical development.

STEAM ACADEMY

STEAM Academy at Haskell Grades K-5

STEAM = STEM + ARTS The program is an educational approach that focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. These subject areas are integrated into everyday learning.

The STEAM Academy focuses on a student-driven learning environment that fosters inquiry, problem-solving, innovation and a growth mindset.

TWO-WAY LANGUAGE IMMERSION

Two-Way Language Immersion at Barbour Grades K-8

Two-Way Language Immersion at Barbour gives students the gift of two languages. Students will develop proficiency in reading and writing in English and Spanish. Students will develop appreciation toward other cultures.

WHAT MAKES THIS PROGRAM UNIQUE?

- Provides intensive and professional experiences in the arts.
- Arts integrated curriculum through all subject areas.
- The only program in the district that offers dance.
- The only middle school program that allows students to take two year-round arts classes.

- Accelerated and advanced learning & curriculum to challenge students.
- An inquiry focus in all subject areas, including a daily inquiry block time in elementary school where students learn social and science skills.
- STEM - Project Lead The Way (PLTW) in middle & high school.

- Internationally recognized.
- Promotes: student inquiry, communication, understanding global perspectives, problem solving, and responsible citizenship.

- Students are grouped in multi-age classrooms and encouraged to take responsibility for their own education.
- Montessori-trained teachers foster independence by supporting students as they move with purpose throughout the classroom.

- Applies a research-based science curriculum and uses Project Lead The Way (PLTW) to create a hands-on learning environment.
- 30 minute longer school day.
- Weekly makerspace classes where students design, construct and problem solve.

- The only K-8 school where students learn to read, write and speak in English and Spanish. **Daily Instruction:**
 - Grades K-1: 90% Spanish and 10% English. English instruction increases in second grade.
 - Grades 3-8: 50% Spanish and 50% English
 - All grades: 100% English in art, music, PE & library

- Highly qualified fine art staff who are active in the local community.
- Produces highly skilled artists and technicians who are committed to the arts and are ready to enter the workforce.

- Mandarin Chinese offered in middle & high school.
- Academic, athletic, service & special interest clubs.
- Competition opportunities: athletics, academic quiz bowl, chess, robotics, music, art, theatre.

- Subjects are not taught in isolation, but are connected to each other through 6 themes.
- All students learn Spanish as a World Language.

- Older students model for younger students.
- Students remain with the same teacher for 2-3 years, developing a strong sense of community with self-directed learning.

- LEGO education for all students.
- Coding instruction starts in kindergarten.
- Band opportunities in grades 4-5.
- Community partnerships reinforce science concepts and real-world experiences.

- Split Spanish and English heritage speakers allows for peer modeling and support.
- Opportunity to earn the Seal of Biliteracy and achieve college credits by taking the Spanish AP test.
- Prepares students for the global market.

STUDENTS WHO WOULD BENEFIT

Passionate & artistically talented in one or more of the arts: choir, band, orchestra, piano, dance, visual arts, media arts, theatre & technical theatre.

- Are advanced thinkers
- Demonstrate creativity & curiosity
- Prefer choice & independence
- Show intensity & inventiveness

- Independent learner
- Curious & creative
- Enjoy projects
- Works well in a team
- Interested in learning Spanish

- Independent and self-directed
- Focused
- Enjoys hands-on learning

Show interest in activities related to science, technology, engineering, art and math

- Are curious & innovative
- Engage in problem-solving activities
- Have a growth mindset: they keep trying when challenged

- Curious engaged learners
- Resilient and dedicated
- Appreciates other cultures

HOW TO APPLY & LEARN MORE

Yearly auditions are held for current students grades 5-11 who live within RPS 205 boundaries.



SCAN ME

WEST MIDDLE



SCAN ME

AUBURN HIGH

Admission testing sessions are held for students grades K-10 who live within RPS 205 boundaries.



SCAN ME

MARSHALL ELEMENTARY



SCAN ME

MARSHALL MIDDLE



SCAN ME

AUBURN HIGH

A kindergarten lottery is held January to early March for children zoned in NW Rockford. Students in grades K-4 can complete an interest form to be put on a waitlist.



SCAN ME

A PreK lottery is held January to early March for children who will be 4 on or before September 1. Students in grades K-6 can complete an interest form to be put on a waitlist.



SCAN ME

A kindergarten lottery is held January to early March. Students in grades K-4 can complete an interest form to be put on a waitlist.



SCAN ME

A kindergarten lottery is held January to early March. Must pass a Spanish or English language assessment.

Complete an interest form to be put on a waitlist:
Entering grades K-1 can speak English **and/or** Spanish.
Entering grades 2-7 must speak both English **and** Spanish.



SCAN ME