



THE PHILOSOPHY

of Bridges Community School is to provide an innovative educational choice for K-5 students and families that promotes and nurtures lifelong learning, readiness for a changing world, and engaged citizenship in a safe and supportive environment.

LIFELONG GUIDELINES

- Trustworthiness
- Truthfulness
- Active Listening
- No Put-Downs
- Personal Best

STUDENT-CENTERED, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED, PARENT-SUPPORTED K-5 PROGRAM

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Bridges Community School is a choice school within the Mankato Area Public Schools district (ISD77).

Bridges uses Core Knowledge Curriculum and prioritizes hands-on, project-based learning and welcomes all students and families to its program.

Students are admitted to Bridges on a lottery-based system for each grade level. Applications are accepted throughout the year. Students are admitted if their name is drawn for an open spot at their grade level. All other applicants will be placed on a waitlist based on the order in which their names are drawn.

Siblings of current Bridges students are given enrollment priority. The school strives to maintain a 50:50 ratio of boys to girls whenever possible.



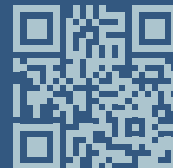
**APPLICATIONS DUE
FEBRUARY 15.**

Please call Bridges Community School or visit the website to learn more.

LEARN MORE & APPLY:

507.387.2800

bcs.isd77.org



Bridges

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

A CHOICE SCHOOL

WITHIN THE
MANKATO AREA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DISTRICT



BRIDGES COMMUNITY SCHOOL

320 GARFIELD AVENUE
NORTH MANKATO, MN 56003

507.387.2800 | bcs.isd77.org

LIFESKILLS

Caring • Common Sense • Cooperation • Courage • Creativity • Curiosity • Effort
Flexibility • Friendship • Initiative • Integrity • Organization • Patience • Perseverance
Pride • Problem Solving • Resourcefulness • Responsibility • Sense of Humor

CURRICULUM

Bridges uses Core Knowledge Curriculum for Science and Social Studies. Core Knowledge is often described as classical and has a high level of rigor and student engagement. The Core Knowledge Curriculum investigates a wide variety of study areas, including ancient and modern cultures from around the world. Currently, Bridges uses the Minnesota State Standards and incorporates resources such as Everyday Math and Benchmark Reading.

Bridges has a long tradition of using innovative teaching techniques in the classroom and in our community. It prioritizes hands-on and project-based learning, as well as *Being There Experiences*, curriculum-based field trips that connect classroom learning to the real world.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Bridges has a long tradition of meaningful parent and/or guardian involvement. There are many opportunities available for parents to take an active role in the success of the school.

Parents share the governance of the school through the Site Council, under the direction of Mankato Area Public Schools.

Bridges Advisory Committee (BAC) is an active group of parent volunteers and teachers who work together to provide educational resources, social activities, volunteer support, as well as much-needed fundraisers to support students, teachers, and staff at the school.



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Bridges students, faculty, and families learn about *Lifelong Guidelines* and *Lifeskills*, which are integrated in the curriculum and practiced in every area of the school. Common vocabulary is used to reinforce character-building skills at school, at home, and beyond.

Lifeskills direct the discussion and activities during daily meetings of our Community Groups, which are multi-age groups of students and siblings who stay together throughout their time at Bridges. These groups provide various opportunities to interact with students in other grades, and they reflect how communities form in the broader world. Students are encouraged to practice *Lifeskills* by working together on service-based community projects.

Parents, guardians, and other family members are encouraged to attend all-school meetings which are held each Friday morning. In these meetings, students are recognized for using *Lifeskills* the previous week and encouraged to share their talents.



EDUCATION COMPACT

Each parent, student, and teacher is responsible for their part in the education of Bridges students. These responsibilities are addressed in the Education Compact, reviewed and signed at the beginning of every school year by the student, their teacher, and one parent or guardian.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q: Is Bridges a public school?
A: Yes, Bridges is a public school within Mankato Area Public Schools (ISD77).
- Q: Is Bridges a charter school?
A: No. Bridges Community School is subject to the same rules, regulations, and statutes that apply to other public schools in District 77.
- Q: Does Bridges charge tuition?
A: No, there is no charge to attend Bridges.
- Q: Are students required to meet certain standards to attend Bridges?
A: No, students of all abilities are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Q: Is transportation available?
A: Yes, bus transportation is available and eligibility is determined by the same criteria as other schools in District 77.



PLEDGE

I will do the right thing today. I will treat people right today. I am responsible for what I think, how I feel, and what I say. All things are possible today. Good news is heading my way!