



ELA is an early middle school experience which nurtures thinkers to take their educational explorations further, and develop their leadership potential by having a voice in a unique educational community.

TO CONTACT

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ENGLEWOOD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



A community of curious, empowered learners who collaborate, serve, lead, and grow.



ELA doesn't accept many kids.

MYTH - ELA enrolls interested students based on space availability and has up to 100 students. We have students who are curious, engaged and excited about the opportunities provided at ELA.

Students only focus on grades here.

MYTH - Students can get involved in sports with Englewood Middle School. We have clubs after school to enrich their middle school experience. We have social events, like dances and teambuilding opportunities to help with socialization. Students are enriched by electives as we help to develop healthy, well-rounded young leaders.

The ELA application is really hard to do. NEW - We've revised our Enrollment Packet to be more user friendly and accessible to all families. Anyone can complete our Enrollment Packet and be enrolled at ELA as long as we have available space in our classes.

ELA has very small classes. MYTH - Our school is small, but our class sizes are comparable to other Englewood classrooms, ranging from 15-25 students. If you don't get good grades at ELA you'll be on a contract.

NEW - We've revised our policies to create growth plans instead of contracts. Our aim has always been for all of our students to finish their middle school career with us, and now our policy aligns with that vision.

You can get "kicked out" of ELA. NEW - We no longer practice our voluntary withdrawals for students who do not meet our expectations, but instead focus on support, strategies and ways to help these students experience success.

ELA doesn't accept kids on IEPs, 504s, READ plans, or ELL plans.

MYTH - With specialized teachers in the building, we are willing and able to meet the needs of these students. ELA is often a great fit for a student who is on a specialized plan because the student has support from specialists to accommodate any learner.

All ELA students are on an advanced track. MYTH - We do have opportunities for students to advance and take high school classes as 8th graders, but there are also opportunities to study at grade level. Our aim is to provide whatever students need academically while in middle school.

Students are expected to complete 30 hours of community service per year.

FACT - One of the core values at ELA is community service. Students gain leadership skills, collaboration skills, and practice putting others ahead of themselves when they engage in community service.



ELA has Immersion.

NEW - We're piloting some experiences for students that allow us to take time to dive in and explore something new. Students can choose a course that inspires them to grow!

ELA takes out of town trips each spring.

MYTH - COVID interrupted our trips and now our field trips are focused on local day trips, and educational experiences that connect to Immersion, and are evolving each year to match our curriculum, student needs and budget limitations.



PHOENIXES REIMAGINED

At ELA, we chose our Phoenix mascot to remind us that we need to be constantly growing and improving to meet the needs of our students, our community and our school system. We have tried to use the pandemic and the nationwide awakening to social justice as a lens through which to view our school anew. In discussing our long standing ELA policies, we found some that we feel more strongly about than ever and others that we felt needed some revision. Below, you'll find some things that you might have heard about ELA, insights into whether these policies may or may not be true, and some new information about the direction of our school. Please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone on our staff to talk further about these items.

Fact, Myth or New?

ELA is only for gifted kids. MYTH - ELA is for any student who wants a different middle school experience that focuses on leadership development, collaboration and hands-on learning.

