



YOUNG MEN FOR OTHERS



DE SMET JESUIT

MIDDLE SCHOOL

*“Before I went to De Smet, I used to try to make everything about me. But De Smet changed the way I see that. **I’ve learned to include other people** instead of just looking out for myself.”*

Louis Anyimadu

7th Grade



FORMING YOUNG MEN *for* OTHERS

Middle school years shape far more than what a boy knows. They shape who he is becoming. Every part of the De Smet Jesuit Middle School experience is intentionally designed for boys in grades 6–8.

From active learning to purposeful relationships, the experience reflects how middle school boys learn, grow, and thrive.

We educate the mind. We form the heart. We prepare each young man to take his next step with purpose.

This is middle school with a **mission**.

This is our **promise**.

This is what **sets us apart**.

FOUR PILLARS. ONE PLACE TO LEARN, GROW, AND BELONG.

Our commitment to these four pillars defines a De Smet Jesuit education. Together, they help boys grow into capable students, compassionate friends, confident leaders, and Young Men for Others.

Pillar 01

CATHOLIC & JESUIT

Faith is woven into each day as students recognize God's presence and discover who He calls them to be.

Pillar 02

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Our student-centered Jesuit approach challenges each boy while preparing him for high school with confidence.

Pillar 03

CARE FOR THE WHOLE PERSON

Each boy is known, valued, and supported as he grows in mind, faith, character, and well-being.

Pillar 04

YOUNG MEN FOR OTHERS

We form young men who look beyond themselves and use their gifts to serve God and others.



Pillar 01

CATHOLIC
& JESUIT

Faith Begins
to Take Root.

De Smet Jesuit exists to help our young men meet God. The God who is love. In middle school, boys begin to understand why faith matters. **They learn to recognize God’s presence in their lives.**

Through prayer, reflection, and the Jesuit classroom, they begin to discover who they are. They learn to consider the needs of others. They embark on the journey of understanding who God calls them to be.



Jesuit Tradition

Jesuit education flows out of the 500-year-old vision of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our spirituality is at the heart of what we do. Students learn to reflect on their experiences, make thoughtful choices, and find God in all things.

Faith in Community

Weekly middle school Mass brings students together to pray and celebrate as one community. Boys take active roles through opportunities such as Berchmans Brigade (altar servers training), the liturgical band, readings, music, and other parts of worship.

Faith Beyond the Classroom

Grade-level retreats, spiritual experiences, and the daily Examen prayer give students time to step away, reflect, strengthen relationships, and encounter God in new ways.

Confirmation Preparation

With approval from their home parish, students may prepare for Confirmation at De Smet Jesuit during the school day, then receive the sacrament at their parish.

Welcomed Wherever He Is

Students of all faith backgrounds belong at De Smet Jesuit. We meet each student where he is. Every student is invited to explore, reflect, and grow in their faith.



*“I like the daily **Examen reflection** because it reminds you to slow down, appreciate everything, and be grateful.”*

Austin Obholz
7th Grade

Pillar 02

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Challenged to Think.
Supported to Grow.

Academic excellence is deeply personal. **Here, every student is challenged, known, and supported so he can do his best work and enter high school with confidence.**

Highly qualified subject-area teachers understand both what they teach and how middle school boys learn. They meet each student where he is. Then they help him stretch, take intellectual risks, and develop his God-given gifts.



A Head Start on High School

Advanced students can take high school courses in language, math, and science while still in middle school, preparing them for more accelerated coursework ahead.

Support Built Into the Day

Study halls, student support specialists, and the Learning Center provide structure and targeted support. Students learn to organize their work, manage their time, ask for help, and take greater ownership of their learning.

A High School Rhythm

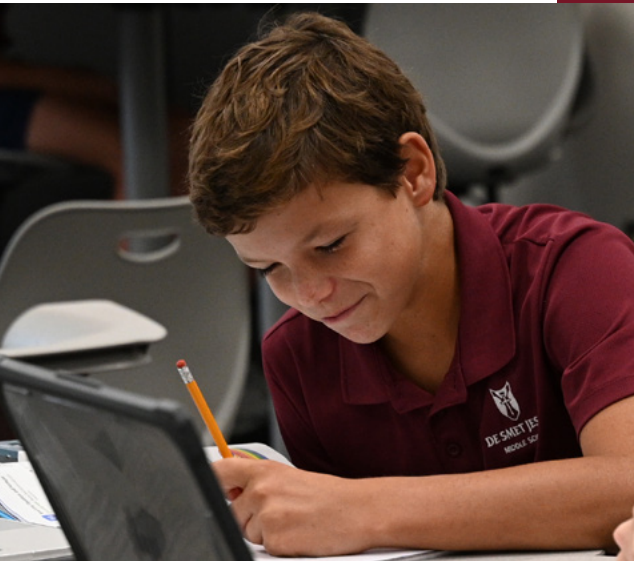
Middle school students follow the same block schedule as the high school. Longer class periods create time for discussion, projects, collaboration, movement, and deeper learning.

Technology With Purpose

A 1:1 laptop program provides the tools students need to create and collaborate. Clear expectations, including a no cell phone policy, help boys stay focused, present, and connected.

More to Explore

Fine arts, STEM-related courses, and student-choice electives give boys room to explore. They can try something new, build on their talents, and discover interests that may stay with them well beyond middle school.



*“The biggest positive difference was the **teachers who challenged the boys** to think critically. It wasn’t enough to give a basic, undeveloped answer. The expectation was to provide a thoughtful and articulate answer to a question or assignment.”*

Michael Swatske
8th Grade Parent

Pillar 03

CARE FOR THE WHOLE PERSON

Known for Who He Is.
Formed for Who He Can Become.

The Jesuit value of *cura personalis* means caring for the whole person. His mind. His faith. His character. His relationships. His well-being.

Small classes and strong teacher relationships create a safe, supportive environment. **Each boy is known personally. Valued for his gifts. Encouraged to grow.**



Middle School **Sports & Clubs:**

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Soccer | Student Council |
| Volleyball | Chess |
| Cross Country | Aviation |
| Basketball | Robotics |
| Wrestling | Fishing & Outdoors |
| Racquetball | Esports |
| Baseball | Paintball |
| Track & Field | Book Club |
| Bowling | Card Club |
| Ultimate Frisbee | |

Designed With Boys in Mind

Our teachers choose to work with middle school boys. They understand their energy, humor, questions, and developmental needs. Learning, movement, and connection are intentionally built into each day.

A Team Around Every Student

A dedicated middle school counselor, the Learning Center, teachers, and staff work together to support students through individual guidance, small groups, and timely intervention.

Time to Connect

Advisory, assemblies, recognition programs, and a daily activity period give boys time to build relationships, celebrate growth, and strengthen community.

Discover His Place

Athletics, clubs, activities, and leadership opportunities help each student explore his interests, develop confidence, and find where he belongs.

Support Beyond the School Day

Supervision from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. gives students time to study, connect, recharge, and participate in school life.



*“There’s a wide range of things for **people with different interests**. There are people who sign up for paintball, and then there are kids like me who sign up for book club.”*

Luke Vielhaber
7th Grade

Pillar 04

YOUNG MEN FOR OTHERS

Learning to Lead.
Called to Serve.

A Jr. Spartan learns to look beyond himself. To stand with others. To recognize that his gifts are meant to be shared.

Service and leadership are part of every student’s formation. **Through reflection and purposeful action, boys begin to develop compassion, perspective, responsibility, and a commitment to justice.**



Service in Action

Every middle school student participates in at least two service opportunities each year. Mission Week, service days, community partnerships, and the Great Ignatian Challenge connect faith with action.

Leadership With Purpose

Ambassador and leadership programs invite students to welcome others, represent their school, take initiative, and discover that leadership begins with service.

Mentored by Spartans

Intentional, developmentally appropriate connections with high school students give Jr. Spartans positive role models and a clearer picture of the young men they can become.

The Ignatian Way

Through prayer services, weekly and all-school Masses, the daily Examen reflection, and service, boys begin to understand the call to find God in all things and become Young Men for Others.



*“It can be holding the door for someone, or if they drop their stuff, **helping them** pick it up.”*

Baier Waller
7th Grade

BROTHERHOOD BEGINS HERE

A place to belong.
People who have his back.

Brotherhood is more than school spirit. It is the feeling of being known, supported, challenged, and welcomed into something bigger than yourself.

Brotherhood begins with Agoge, our sixth-grade orientation, where students meet their future brothers, face new challenges together, and begin building trust. It grows through advisory, classrooms, assemblies, teams, clubs, prayer, service, and everyday moments.

Middle school students are part of the broader Spartan community. They share in its traditions, facilities, and experiences. Their interactions with high school students are intentional, supervised, and developmentally appropriate.

Jr. Spartans encourage one another. Celebrate one another. Grow together.

He arrives a student.
He becomes a Spartan.



*“You accept people and **they accept you.**
Pretty much the whole school is friends.”*

Crew Mayers
8th Grade





READY FOR WHAT'S NEXT

Middle school is more than
a bridge. It is a foundation.

A De Smet Jesuit Middle School education prepares each student to enter high school with confidence. He knows how to manage a block schedule. Organize his work. Ask for help. Advocate for himself. Work with others. Respond when learning becomes difficult.

He enters ninth grade grounded in Jesuit values and connected to the Spartan community. He is ready to welcome new classmates and take his next step alongside them.

Ready to **learn**. Ready to **contribute**. Ready to **lead**.
Ready for **what's next**.

Ready to become a **Man for Others**.

WHO HE IS BECOMING

The Portrait of a De Smet Jesuit Middle School Graduate

At the end of eighth grade, his formation is far from finished. But the foundation is strong. He takes his next step shaped by **six qualities** that will guide him forward.

Visit. Apply.
Become a
Jr. Spartan.



desmet.org

Scan to learn more about admissions and take the next step.

01 GROWING IN FAITH

He recognizes God's presence, participates in prayer and worship, reflects on his experiences, and begins to make choices rooted in faith.

02 INTELLECTUALLY CURIOUS

He asks thoughtful questions, thinks critically, communicates clearly, and approaches learning with growing confidence and independence.

03 SELF-AWARE

He accepts feedback, learns from setbacks, and takes increasing responsibility for his choices and growth.

04 LEARNING TO LOVE

He builds healthy relationships, treats others with dignity, shows empathy, and helps others feel known and supported.

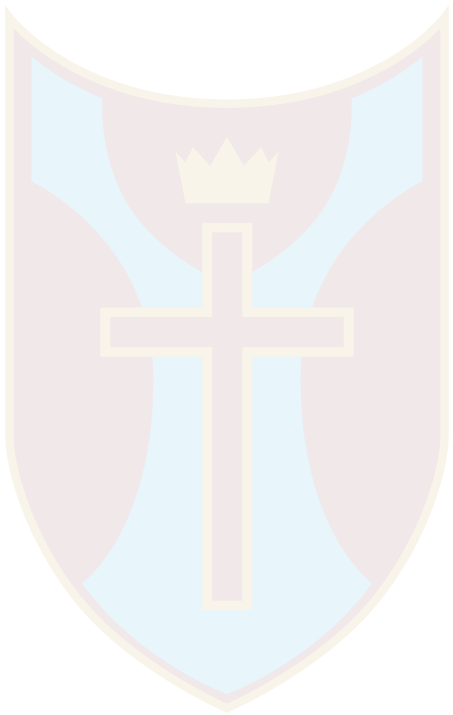
05 COMMITTED TO JUSTICE

He notices the needs of others, understands that faith calls him to act, and uses his gifts in service of the common good.

06 DEVELOPING AS A LEADER

He leads with integrity, works well with others, advocates for himself, and is prepared to contribute in high school and beyond.

Grounded in **faith**. Prepared in **mind**. Generous in **spirit**.
Ready to continue becoming the man **God calls him to be**.



DE SMET JESUIT
MIDDLE SCHOOL

BECOME A SPARTAN



DE SMET JESUIT

MIDDLE SCHOOL

AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM

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