

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION GRADE SCHOOL



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

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Academic Excellence is at the heart of ICGS

Immaculate Conception Grade School follows the course of academic instruction prescribed by the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Joliet. Through parent/teacher collaboration, use of state-of-the-art digital tools, and real world applications our students are engaged and empowered to reach their full potential. In supporting our students in all aspects of their development, the core curriculum is enriched by instruction in Fine Arts, Physical Education/Health, Foreign Language, and Technology. Emphasis on personal values, the cultivation of a deep faith life, and community service provide each student with the opportunity to develop his/her individual potential in becoming a good citizen of our school and the community at large. Our challenging curriculum allows students to be actively engaged and encourages high academic achievement.

Methods of instruction include individual focus, small groups and total class involvement. In this way our teachers employ the most effective methods – as needed – for the intellectual, emotional and social advancement of all our students. Our teachers use formal and Informal assessments, teacher feedback, test scores and in classroom metrics to gauge student progress and guide instruction.

100%

Students attend HS of their choice

90%

Students make honor roll at High School

Over 20

number of extracurricular activities

124

number of years ICGS has been educating students

539

Students

311

families

15:1

student/teacher ratio

Immaculate Conception Grade School

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Academic Support in Reading and Math

One of the ways we differentiate our school from other schools is our priority in creating support programs to meet the needs of our students at every academic level in the core subjects of Math and Reading. Our administration works together with our Academic Support Teachers and Homeroom Teachers to assess students in each grade level as we consider the additional programs needed. These assessments include teacher feedback, test scores and in classroom metrics and happen over the first quarter of the school year.

The group levels we use are Accelerated, Enriched, On Level and Intervention. Accelerated and Intervention students are taught by the Academic Support Team in smaller groups. The Enriched and On Level learners are typically being taught by the homeroom teachers. This diversity allows us to meet the varied learning levels of each of our students and keep class sizes for Reading and Math smaller for individualized attention for all of our students.

Our Accelerated and Enriched learners must not only be able to handle the advanced curriculum but also be independent learners, have the desire and commitment to complete the necessary work of our enriched classes and meet other testing requirements from our staff. Students in Enriched Math classes are typically using a textbook one grade ahead of their level. In 8th grade, students who meet the requirements may take a placement test which would allow them to take freshman Math classes at ICCP during their Math class time. The Enriched and Accelerated Reading levels use a book ahead of grade level and challenge the students with their critical thinking and writing. Students in on level Math and Reading classes are using the textbook for their current grade and learning at an appropriate pace. Students in Intervention are using the textbook for their current grade and are learning at a more individualized pace. These placements are continually evaluated throughout the year and may change when necessary.

Once the students have been assessed and placed into appropriate groups, we review our curriculum and adjust it to address the learning level of the students within each grade and group, allowing for the greatest impact and continued academic growth for everyone. The teachers differentiate within these groups to both challenge and bolster skills appropriately.

In addition to the specialized groups in 2nd-8th grade, we also use our Teaching Assistance Team and Academic Support Team teachers to help our kindergarten and 1st grade students who may need additional support or challenge in a smaller group setting.

As an additional support for Junior High students, this year, we are offering specialized assistance during study halls. Each study hall is monitored by an educator who is able to address questions or concerns of students and help answer homework related questions.