

**CHOOSE STRONG ACADEMICS.
CHOOSE PERSONALIZED LEARNING.
CHOOSE INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY.
CHOOSE COMMITTED PARTNERS.
CHOOSE YOUR DREAMS.**

CHOOSE SCHOOL DISTRICT 197.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Visit www.isd197.org, call 651.403.7000
or contact any of our schools to arrange a tour.

WE TAKE LEARNING PERSONALLY

Focused.  Forward.

West St. Paul + Mendota Heights + Eagan Area

DISTRICT 197

Welcome to the West St Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Area Schools, also known as School District 197. Visit us anytime to see the exciting things happening in our schools - our doors are open to all. Through personalized learning plans, cutting edge technology and active involvement of community partners, School District 197 takes each student's dreams and turns them into reality.

ABOUT US

School District 197 serves all or part of seven communities: Eagan, Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Sunfish Lake and West St. Paul. We have five elementary schools (K-4), two middle schools (5-8) and one high school (9-12), as well as comprehensive early childhood and community education programs for all residents. Approximately 4,500 students are learning in our schools every day, with class sizes lower than many metro area school districts.

WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL?

- > *Personalized learning* – staff find the “spark” that gets each student excited about learning, while challenging all students to do their best.
- > *Just the right size* – our small schools focus on students as individuals while serving their unique academic, artistic, athletic and emotional needs.
- > *Focus on innovation* – with the help of community partners, staff expose students to innovative teaching strategies and ideas, boosting critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills.
- > *Real-world diversity* – cultural exploration, world language instruction and classmates from diverse backgrounds offer students a global perspective.
- > *Technology for teaching and learning* – teachers and students are surrounded by the latest technology to explore, research, create, document, present and assess learning.



EIGHT STUDENT-CENTERED SCHOOLS

Our eight schools all focus on moving students forward by putting students first:

- > *Four magnet schools:* Garlough Environmental Magnet School (K-4), Moreland Academy: Arts and Health Sciences Magnet (K-4), Pilot Knob STEM School (K-4) and Heritage E-STEM Middle School (5-8).
- > *Three neighborhood schools:* Mendota Elementary (K-4), Somerset Elementary (K-4) and Friendly Hills Middle School (5-8).
- > *One unified high school:* Henry Sibley High School (9-12).

We have a proven track record creating successful magnet schools, and now offer options for special student interests in the environment, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), arts, health and fitness.

WE TAKE LEARNING PERSONALLY



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (K-4)



- > Spanish instruction for all students
- > Math instruction that builds students' knowledge from the basics to higher-order thinking
- > Literacy instruction that uses motivating and engaging literature to help teachers teach the right skill, at the right time, for every student
- > Hands-on instruction in science, social studies, art, music and physical education

- > The Kindness Project, that promotes a proactive approach to positive and safe school environments
- > Gifted and Talented programming to serve high-performing students' needs and support teachers in tailoring learning opportunities for every student
- > Introduction to Instruments program allows all fourth graders to try different musical instruments

Garlough Environmental Magnet School

1740 Charlton St, West St Paul, MN 55118, 651.403.8100

Environmental learning is at the core of everything we do. Through nature-based experiences, we support and enhance children's intellectual, social, emotional and physical development. Students explore nature in Garlough Woods and at Dodge Nature Center as they gain a sense of wonder, respect and care for the natural world.

- > Dodge Nature Center's 320 acres provide incredible outdoor classrooms.
- > Through Journey North®, students share their own field observations with classmates across North America.
- > Students participate in scientific observation and data collection, then develop hands-on projects to build reading, math, science and technology skills.

Mendota Elementary

1979 Summit Lane, Mendota Heights, MN 55118, 651.403.8000

We focus on academics and high expectations, and it shows in our exceptional test scores and the achievements of our students. Our goal for each student is to promote life-long learning, recognize individuality and provide challenging experiences. We link learning to real life, stressing practical applications as well as the joy of discovery.

- > Our use of the Responsive Classroom® approach helps students thrive academically, socially and emotionally through management strategies such as morning meetings and guided discovery.
- > Annual Project Fair, Technology Fair, Talent Show, and other opportunities for students to showcase their learning.
- > Extensive after-school program lets students learn while having fun and trying new things.

Moreland Academy: Arts and Health Sciences Magnet

217 W Moreland Ave, West St Paul, MN 55118, 651.403.7800

Imagine a school where energy and creativity are combined to boost academic achievement for all students, and you'll imagine Moreland Academy. Art of all kinds – visual arts, music, theater, dance – and a focus on healthy living energize our students and give them tools for learning.

- > Indoor running track and rock wall to encourage healthy movement.
- > Special family events at YMCA, thanks to community partnership.
- > Arts extend into after-school program offerings, giving students additional opportunities to experience music, dance, theater and art.

Pilot Knob STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

1436 Lone Oak Road, Eagan, MN 55121, 651.403.7900

Our STEM focus encourages students to design, build and create things with others as part of their daily learning and helps them gain the skills they need to be successful in today's increasingly technological society. Through an integrated approach to learning, students use math and science themes to build skills in reading, art, music, social studies and more.

- > Fully equipped on-site television studio showcases student use of cutting-edge technology.
- > Community garden enables students to plant, harvest and cook, while teaching them math, science and reading skills.
- > A true school community, where everyone knows and cares for each other.

Somerset Elementary

1355 Dodd Road, Mendota Heights, MN 55118, 651.403.8200

Our school is a unique jewel; it feels like a second home to our students and families. We consistently achieve academic excellence by fostering students' individual talents and skills and by creating a climate of pride in our school. We extend that feeling of community kindness and care through local and worldwide service projects.

- > Our teachers excel at creating a learning environment that is differentiated with each student's needs in mind.
- > S.P.I.F.F. (special pals in fun friendships) connects our students with senior citizens who learn from each other and develop important intergenerational friendships.
- > Staff, parent and community volunteers share their expertise in a variety of after school enrichment classes including: Continental Math, Fitness Club, Boys Book Club, Fusion Lab, Lego League and more.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS (5-8)



- > Comprehensive language arts, science, social studies and math curriculum
- > Art and music offered all four years
- > Family and Consumer Science, Tech Ed and health classes

- > Students grouped into smaller “houses” to help them develop supportive relationships with staff and other students
- > Gifted and Talented programming to serve high-performing students’ needs and support teachers in tailoring learning opportunities for every student

Friendly Hills Middle School

701 Mendota Heights Road, Mendota Heights, MN 55120 651.403.7600

With an emphasis on integrating technology, the arts and rigorous academics, our students develop the skills necessary to achieve their academic goals and become lifelong learners. Teaching strategies target individual learning styles to enhance course content and promote students’ critical thinking skills. Incorporating service learning at all grade levels provides real life, hands-on experiences and prepares students to be responsible global citizens.

- > Gifted/Talented specialty courses and academic clustering in all grade levels helps meet the academics needs of all learners.
- > Band, Orchestra and Choir offered in grades 5 - 8.
- > Extra-curricular opportunities in arts, academics, leadership, athletics and enrichment are available before and after-school for all students.

Heritage E-STEM Middle School (Environmental-Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

121 W Butler Ave, West St Paul, MN 55118, 651.403.7400

Through our school-wide use of STEM tools and concepts, we create inquisitive learners, problem solvers and environmental stewards. Students visit Dodge Nature Center to study the environment, then journal their findings, graph and analyze their data and use computers to professionally present their reports.

- > Hands-on activities, online resources and individual student computers equip students with 21st century skills.
- > Project Lead the Way curriculum challenges and engages the natural curiosity of students while teaching them to be creative and innovative.
- > Block schedule extends the learning time in each subject.

HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)



Henry Sibley High School

1897 Delaware Ave, Mendota Heights, MN 55118, 651.403.7100

Discover our outstanding academic programs, state-of-the-art facility and talented teachers in a school that's just the right size – big enough to offer a wide range of opportunities and small enough for meaningful relationships. We offer a comprehensive, rigorous curriculum that challenges our students. We have over 150 courses in all subject areas, including fine arts, Advanced Placement, Project Lead the Way (Fall 2011), as well as opportunities to take college-level courses such as College in the Schools and Seniors to Sophomores programs.

- > We are constantly integrating new technology that allows our students to take their learning to new levels and prepare them for life beyond high school.
- > With more than 50 clubs, sports teams, service activities and academic organizations, there is something for everyone. We encourage all students to be involved beyond the classroom.

MAGNET SCHOOLS: options for special interests

In addition to our great neighborhood schools, we now offer four magnet school options for families. Magnet schools offer the same rigorous curriculum as our other schools, but have a special theme woven into what students learn.

GARLOUGH ENVIRONMENTAL MAGNET SCHOOL (K-4)

Primary Partner: Dodge Nature Center

A rigorous environmental studies program emphasizing science, technology and math.

MORELAND ACADEMY: ARTS AND HEALTH SCIENCES MAGNET (K-4)

Primary Partners: YMCA, Stages Theatre Company and Dakota County Public Health

Arts-infused curriculum supported by effective practices in health and fitness.

PILOT KNOB STEM SCHOOL (K-4)

Primary Partners: Lockheed-Martin and the Science Museum of Minnesota

A focus on science, technology, engineering and math, with projects related to scientific discovery and problem solving.

HERITAGE E-STEM MIDDLE SCHOOL (5-8)

Primary partners: Dodge Nature Center and the City of West St. Paul

A focus on science, technology, engineering and math, with projects and field experiences related to the environment.

ALL FOUR MAGNETS PROVIDE:

- > academically rigorous classes that meet state standards
- > group projects and learning experiences
- > attention to individual student learning needs
- > up-to-date technology throughout the building
- > a focus on inquiry that teaches students to ask questions that help them learn

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A MAGNET SCHOOL?

All four magnets are open to all students. Bus transportation will be provided to each magnet from any location within the school district in accordance with the district's busing guidelines.

Families currently enrolled in the magnet schools, families who live in or attend day care in the attendance area and siblings of currently enrolled students do not need to complete a magnet school application.

Magnet school applications are available online at www.isd197.org, at any school building or call 651-403-7026 to have an application mailed to you.

Applications are due January 31, 2011 and families will be notified of their status by February 18, 2011. Applications accepted after the deadline will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis when space allows. If applications exceed space, a random process will be used to select enrollment and wait list status.