



When Hawken School was established in 1915 by James A. Hawken, his foremost purpose was to prepare his students for the real world.

Early Childhood | Preschool - Grade 2

Our Philosophy

Hawken's forward-focused mission preparation through the development of character and intellect applies to even our youngest students.

Hawken's early childhood experts know young children thrive in nurturing environments that encourage and support

discovery and the construction of knowledge through exploration and experimentation in a variety of settings.

The Early Childhood Center, opened in August 2013, provides our students with a state of the art environment specifically designed to facilitate and encourage early childhood learning.

Children need these skills in order to achieve academically and to maintain relationships within the community of the school year.

Academic Overview

- 1 Inspiring Relationships
Respectful and inspiring relationships are the cornerstone of the educational experience at Hawken.
2 Essential Skills
Hawken's program develops the skills essential for academic success...

Grade Level Highlights

- PS: Every fall, our Preschoolers look forward to their annual Harvest Festival where they invite their parents to join them for a morning of fun...

Academic Overview

A Hawken education revolves around the central premise that young people's talents can be maximized through a comprehensive and balanced curriculum.

Academic Overview

- The acquisition of basic skills is an important component of a rich and well-rounded primary program. With this in mind, students become more confident learners and effective problem solvers.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 3: Every year, the 3rd Grade upholds an institutional tradition in hosting Pioneer Day, a week-long celebration that celebrates our state's history and immerses students in the traditions of essentials and fill backpacks for donation.

opportunity to interact with teachers from a wide spectrum of subjects, benefiting from the seamless interdisciplinary approach to learning.

Academic Overview

- develop self-awareness as independent learners, assume personal responsibility for academic learning and social behavior and balance self-interest with active membership in the larger community.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 4: All students select a string, woodcut, brass, or percussion instrument for their 4th grade study and are assigned to a community circle.

and social skills. Building community is not a theory at Hawken, but has practical, every day application. It is exemplified by Morning Meetings, classroom expectations, and our school's standard of respectful and respectful learning.

Academic Overview

- The Middle School operates on principles and practices centered on the distinctive developmental needs of this age group. Each grade level, within the Middle School is horizontally aligned to include a team of faculty members who approach each of the traditional academic subject areas.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 6: Each year in Middle School, students participate in Doorways Trips, which are experiential-based trips that serve as a catalyst for students' intellectual and personal growth.

committed to developing curricula that meets these needs at the individual readiness level. Every member of the learning community is held to high expectations.

Academic Overview

- extensive use of the Gates Center to engage in integrated service learning projects. These service opportunities are an important way our students feel empowered to make a difference, and to learn from their own efforts.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 7: Along with a performance at the Great Lakes Theater Workshop, 7th Grade students participate in a service learning project called a Mock Court unit which allows the user to write and draw on its screen, which travels to and from home.

aligned with these goals, the curriculum moves quickly to the developmental level of the student, providing a greater level of depth and meaning to what students learn.

Academic Overview

- thoughtfully crafted units of study around key skills and learning objectives. This is particularly evident through English and history programs, which merge into a fully taught humanities program by the eighth grade.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 8: In addition to the culminating Doorways trip, 8th Grade students participate in a service learning project called a Mock Court unit which allows the user to write and draw on its screen, which travels to and from home.

aligned with these goals, the curriculum moves quickly to the developmental level of the student, providing a greater level of depth and meaning to what students learn.

Academic Overview

- Students learn by Doing. Innovation Scheduling. Hawken believes that learning should be meaningful. The Upper School schedule supports a tradition of challenging curriculum while promoting depth of understanding and applied learning.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 9: Starting in 9th Grade, students participate in the Upper School Humanities program which includes a philosophical examination of the House of Mather. The House of Mather is a culminating high school experience. The academic challenges the student outside the classroom and provides a transition to college.

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Academic Overview

- classes with varying lengths, at different scheduled days and times. Research shows that the "floating" schedule, as opposed to more intensive and more varied learning and teaching styles, and increases the probability of meaningful learning experience for Upper School students.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 10: beginning in 10th Grade, preparation for college commences with the right college match. Hawken's comprehensive college counseling program includes consultations with 10th Grade. Parent meetings opportunities are offered as well.

Hawken takes its promises seriously. Our commitment to prepare students to navigate a complex and dynamic world with self-confidence and determination.

Academic Overview

- Once students reach The Upper School, they have a stronger understanding of themselves as learners. As students begin to be less tethered to specific classrooms and become more involved in sophisticated "in the field" projects, one-to-one computing is more important than ever. Just as

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 11: Under the instruction and guidance of an award winning faculty member, 11th and 12th grade students participate in a meaningful project for their writing proficiency. The academic challenges the student outside the classroom and provides a transition to college.

Hawken teaches students to embrace the intrinsic value of learning - not just the rote attainment of knowledge. We do this by providing everyday opportunities for students to inquire, analyze, and experiment. We believe that the development of these skills will best equip our students for the future.

Academic Overview

- preferences and identify the tools and techniques that play to their strengths and manage their weaknesses. Therefore, while we still require a computer and a stylus-based writing system, we offer more choices to our Upper School students, including both PC and Apple computer options.

Grade Level Highlights

- GR 12: During the last five weeks of the year, a qualified senior may work with a faculty advisor on an off campus sponsor to earn a meaningful project as a culminating high school experience. The senior project challenges the student outside the classroom and provides a transition to college.

These six core ideas, The Hawken Method, and Hawken's Purpose, Promise and Principles guide all our efforts and are woven into the fabric of our curriculum.



Head of School

Technology Overview

There are few, if any, fields as dynamic as the field of technology. But change doesn't have to be the only constant. At Hawken, we organize our use of technology around clear, broad themes that remain relevant even as particular tools and technologies emerge, evolve, and evaporate.

Technology Overview

For Early Childhood and the Lower School, we choose technology that is intuitive, interactive and application-driven. With this in mind, iPads are a good fit in this Division because their design is premised on simplicity.

Technology Overview

By the middle grades, students are ready to begin to coordinate the different components of their academic lives. They are developing awareness of themselves as students and of the types of tools available to optimize learning.

Technology Overview

grades, our Middle School program assumes a more advanced character. Every Middle School student uses a specific model of tablet computer (a computer that allows the user to write and draw on its screen, which travels to and from home).

Technology Overview

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Technology Overview

math) that are under-served by a keyboard and mouse. However, at this stage, learning tools and methods begin to take on a character more specifically tailored to subject domains. Also, with a more developed identity, Upper School students are in a better position to exercise their

Get Ready



Get Ready

Character Development At Hawken, we understand that our purpose of "forward-focused preparation for the real world" through the development of character and intellect "holds us to a much higher challenge. We are committed to providing an equal emphasis on the values of character, empathy, and respect as just as important and expected academic excellence.

Get Ready

Middle School The Middle School Advisory program addresses aspects of character education through formal and informal programming throughout the year. Advisory groups meet every morning, and for an extended period of time once a week. The challenges are designed to encourage and develop socialization skills and peer relationships, along with study and decision-making skills.

Get Ready

Global Connections With Global Connections, Hawken builds on its long standing tradition of international programs with innovative activities such as Student Council, Community Service Council, Energy Team, Robotics, Academic Challenge, Power of the Pen, and Musical Theater to name a few, offer other leadership and teamwork opportunities.

Get Ready

Haiba Exchange Program Hawken's oldest exchange program expands student's view of the world and its diversity - connecting students and families to Japanese families in ways that often result in lifelong friendships.

Get Ready

Classroom Cleveland Hawken is committed to cultivating a student's understanding of our city and what it means to be a responsible neighbor. Through this understanding, students learn how our community's challenges and focus on larger global urban trends.

Get Ready

Next Step: College Hawken offers 3 college counselors per 110 students, insuring that each student gets the individual attention needed to find the right college match. Hawken's comprehensive college counseling program includes the following:

