

Educating Students Through The Arts



McLaughlin Middle School
and Fine Arts Academy
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GUITAR

The GUITAR Program is the only one of a few in the state of Florida. Our guitar ensembles are in high demand to perform around the community. Guitar students receive a general overview of basic guitar techniques during their first year and continue to refine those skills during their second and third years. Guitar students have taken superiors at Solo Ensemble and have been accepted into the classical guitar program at Harrison School of the Arts.



ORCHESTRA

The ORCHESTRA program consists of two performing orchestras and a Mariachi Band. They participate in all of the Florida Orchestra Association events and present two formal concerts during the school year.

The Mariachi band performs on authentic Mexican instruments, and McLaughlin has the only middle school Mariachi course offered in the state of Florida.



VISUAL ARTS

The VISUAL ARTS promote critical thinking and develop creativity. Students are encouraged to understand the fundamentals of the elements of art and principles of design.

2D Art focuses on drawing, mixed media, painting, and printmaking. 3D Art explores sculpture, ceramics, pottery, and forms.

We have our own gallery on campus. Student work is seen in many shows each year, including national exhibits and the Polk Museum of Art.



BAND & CHORUS

Music is an essential part of a student's education for its disciplined nature, creative opportunities, unique cooperative elements, and its ability to satisfy the inner being of a person. BAND & CHORUS improve musical skills in addition to developing character traits

that will aid in molding them into a productive and confident adult. We believe in placing attitude, character, and hard work at the forefront of our curricular goals.



ROCK AND ROLL ACADEMY

ROCK AND ROLL ACADEMY sets up an intentional learning atmosphere by leveraging the power of social play and student ownership. Honoring the human dignity of children, a culture of fearlessness and respect unfolds, resulting in empowered, self-directed learners. Students form a band, select a song, and choose instruments they want to play on that song. The RRA facilitator assists the students in learning the musical parts they need to perform their chosen songs. Each semester culminates in a full-blown rock concert!



MUSIC LEADERSHIP

Are you ready to take over the world? Then let's DO IT! Business is what building a legacy is all about. The learning experiences and content in these courses are centered on education, talent, leadership, and service. In MUSIC LEADERSHIP 101 student examine a career in today's music industry. Planning and preparing for a future requires hard work, talent, and passion. The payoffs could be endless and incredible. Strivers achieve what dreamers believe. "Let's go!"



ACADEMICS

McLaughlin Middle School began serving students in the Lake Wales area in 1964 as a Junior High, and since it has progressed into McLaughlin Middle School & Fine Arts Academy. McLaughlin Middle is a community school with a long, rich history of community support.

The school is located in the beautiful town of Lake Wales, the highest point on Central Florida's geographical ridge. McLaughlin serves a rural community in eastern Polk County in an area commonly known as "The Ridge." The enrollment is approximately 780 students with the class size /teacher ratio of 22:1.

McLaughlin teachers prepare students to be college and career ready. With an emphasis on critical and higher order thinking skills, our students are armed with the tools needed to thrive in an evolving world. Cooperative learning is an essential facet of a 21st century education; teachers are trained in Kagan strategies and Arts Integration. Students are required to take Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. In addition students are afforded the opportunity to participate in elective courses each year. We also offer Foundations of Agriculture, Algebra I, and Geometry courses for High School Credits. McLaughlin also offers Physical Education, ITV/Video Production, Agriculture and all other programs featured in this brochure.

DANCE

DANCE is a high energy, rigorous program offering ballet, modern, and jazz. The program is based on teaching the fundamentals of dance. Students learn formal technique, the etiquette of dance, and choreography. Discipline and a strong work ethic are also instilled into the dancers.



DRAMA

DRAMA students get many chances to perform during the year, including the fall play, spring musical, and our Night of One Acts. Our audition-only troupe, Center Stage, travels around the county and performs at different venues throughout the year. Students also learn technical theatre skills such as running lights and sound. Drama helps to develop imagination, self-confidence, and talent.

