SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS

The Middle School Curriculum

Table of Contents

Mission

Success Academy is redefining what's possible in public education. **Our dual mission is to:**

Build exceptional, world-class public schools that prove children from all backgrounds can succeed in college and life; and advocate to change public policies that prevent so many children from having access to opportunity.

School Design

At Success Academy, we constantly ask ourselves: **"Would our scholars choose to come to school, even if they didn't have to?"** The answer — a resounding "Yes!" — results from setting the bar high while providing meaningful opportunities for scholars to explore, engage, and laugh in our classrooms.

From elementary school through high school, we commit ourselves to the long-term development of our scholars, supporting their ultimate success in college and in life. We teach the core knowledge, critical thinking, independence, and self-advocacy skills that scholars need to excel. We invest in developing their passion for learning, so that they have an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and understanding.

Middle School Curriculum

Our middle school curriculum encourages our scholars to think critically, to develop and debate ideas, and to always support their ideas with evidence. Our classes are intensely hands-on and collaborative; we strive for mastery and believe that inquiry-based learning best enables expertise. In middle school, we also offer enriching electives to serve as critical outlets for creativity, self-awareness, independence, and experiential learning.

Humanities

English Language Arts (ELA)

Scholars who love to read — and who read exceptionally well — develop into lifelong, independent learners. It's crucial that we teach scholars how to read deeply, write passionately, and communicate clearly and confidently so that they can thrive as adults in a fast-paced, dynamic world. Our literacy instruction drives thoughtful engagement with meaningful texts — across all subjects.

Our middle school literacy curriculum emphasizes:

- reading and analyzing novels, short fiction, nonfiction, and poetry
- engaging in rich discussion about the big ideas in texts
- expressing ideas clearly, precisely, and authentically in creative, informative, and argumentative writing

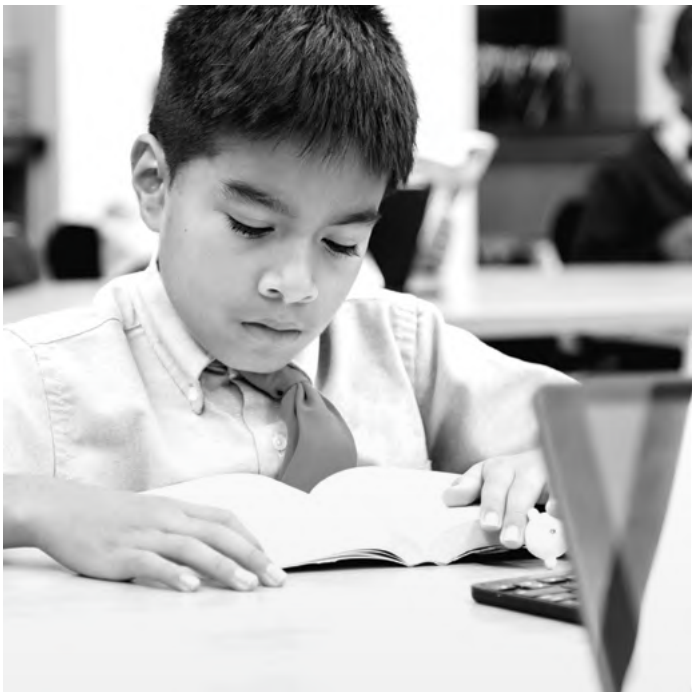
Each day, scholars have a double block (100 minutes) of either literature or writing. During each ELA unit, scholars spend two to three weeks studying literature, followed by two to three weeks studying writing.

Literature

In literature, our scholars immerse themselves in compelling works of fiction, poetry, and literary non-fiction that represent diverse voices and perspectives. Helping scholars analyze and interpret the meaning of texts is our utmost priority— we valorize critical thinking above all else, and ask scholars to consider how an author expresses a central idea with character development and literary technique. Through robust discussion and debate, and in written responses at the end of each class, scholars learn to discern the author's purpose, draw connections between big ideas in the text, and develop an appreciation for literary style.

Each literature unit focuses on a selected book, read by the entire class. We launch these units with shorter Connected Texts relevant to the book's core themes; these pieces introduce background knowledge and key concepts that will help guide scholars in identifying and analyzing the book's central themes. When our fifth graders dive into *The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963*, by Christopher Paul Curtis, for example, they'll have read short works about desegregation and race-relations during that period, so they can more readily consider how history, culture, and symbolism relate to and are revealed through the text.

We conclude each Literature unit with Mastery Text mini-units, in which scholars analyze short texts (a poem, short story, or biographical sketch) unrelated to the prior unit's central text. The purpose of these mini-units is for scholars to apply their analytical skills to unfamiliar texts and demonstrate their ability to use evidence to identify and explain central ideas and themes. By asking scholars to draw on these skills when they read unfamiliar texts, teachers are also able to assess their own success in developing scholars as critical thinkers.



Literature Texts	
GRADE	
5	***The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963*** by Christopher Paul Curtis ***Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice*** by Phillip Hoose ***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*** by Grace Lin ***Locomotion*** by Jacqueline Woodson ***Holes*** by Louis Sachar
6	***The Giver*** by Lois Lowry ***Before Columbus – The Americas of 1491*** by Charles C. Mann ***Chains*** by Laurie Halse Anderson ***Home of the Brave*** by Katherine Applegate ***Diary of a Young Girl*** by Anne Frank
7	***The Outsiders*** by S.E. Hinton ***Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow*** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*** by Sherman Alexie ***The House on Mango Street*** by Sandra Cisneros ***Brown Girl Dreaming*** by Jacqueline Woodson ***Fahrenheit 451*** by Ray Bradbury
8	***The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates*** by Wes Moore ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by Harper Lee ***The Autobiography of Malcolm X*** by Malcolm X ***Animal Farm*** by George Orwell ***In the Time of the Butterflies*** by Julia Alvarez ***Freakonomics*** by Stephen J. Dubner and Steven Levitt

Summer SOAR

We support scholars' continued academic growth over the summer with reading assignments of carefully selected books that are chosen to both challenge and captivate. Scholars receive copies of these incredible reads so that they're able to lose themselves, "soaring" through the summer months — rather than "sliding" backwards from inactivity.

Here is a sample of our Summer SOAR booklist:

Summer Reading	
GRADE (RISING)	
5	***The One and Only Ivan*** by Katherine Applegate
6	***Roller Girl*** by Victoria Jamieson
7	***The Great Greene Heist*** by Varian Johnson
8	***The Crossover*** by Kwame Alexander

One Network, One Book

Each year, the entire Success Academy network — scholars, staff, and teachers — enjoys reading and discussing the same excellent book, such as:

- ***Ghost*** by Jason Reynolds (2017–18)
- ***Wonder*** by Raquel J. Palacio (2016–17)

Writing

As growing writers, our scholars learn how to express rich ideas clearly and powerfully. Scholars use vivid details and robust evidence to drive their point home, while also upholding high standards of organization and grammar.

We challenge our scholars to stretch their composition skills by crafting captivating pieces across a variety of genres and styles. Scholars read examples of quality nonfiction and fiction, as well as poetry and folklore, and discuss and assess what makes the writing interesting and effective. They then use these pieces as sources of inspiration for their own writing.

Throughout the year, scholars strive for vibrant self-expression by writing frequent, short pieces (200 words) in a variety of genres: They write reviews and learn to be effective critics; they engage readers with short-form storytelling; they deliver persuasive letters that pack a punch; they write pithy vignettes about a single important moment in their lives; they even combine creativity with history and develop their own "myths."

They also write speeches and op-eds. For example, our scholars consider the perspective of both black and white abolitionists, drawing on evidence from the Declaration of Independence to write clear and compelling speeches calling for action in the fight for freedom. And they tackle incredibly complex topics head-on in op-eds: Debating the death-penalty, affirmative action, open-borders, and organ donation.

Great writers improve through practice and revision, so after writing original pieces, scholars give each other feedback, and revise and edit their pieces. Most classes end with a discussion about a classmate's writing. Each week, our teachers provide our scholars with targeted feedback and give them multiple opportunities to revise and improve their writing, allowing them to develop a robust command of grammar, style, vocabulary, and rhetoric.

We also celebrate writing as an incredibly joyous activity when our entire middle school community participates in Write-a-Thons. Once a trimester, scholars spend the entire day brainstorming, drafting, revising, and publishing original pieces within a selected genre, including historical fiction, murder mysteries, and poetry. At the end of each Write-a-Thon, selected scholars read their works to the entire grade. These events are an opportunity for scholars to showcase what they've learned, celebrate growth, and continue to develop their passion for writing.

History

Our scholars experience history as the fascinating story of humankind — extraordinarily relevant to their modern lives. We don't approach history as a comprehensive checklist of facts and figures. Rather, we lead scholars in investigations of the most pivotal ideas, events, and cultural interactions that transformed history and continue to resonate and shape our world today.

In each history lesson, teachers present a question about the past and challenge scholars to draw upon a wide array of primary and secondary sources to answer this question, debating and evaluating the historical evidence presented by their peers. Scholars engage in this type of historical inquiry daily, through classroom discussion, analytical writing assignments, and project-based learning, such as drafting political cartoons and simulating major historical debates.

As they progress through the middle school history sequence, scholars build a strong foundation of historical knowledge, draw connections between the past and present, and develop a deep understanding of historical change and continuity. By high school, they are ready to tackle college-level material that prepares them to excel in AP History exams.

GRADE	
5	**World History to 1550** Scholars begin by delving into the ancient world, starting with the rise of the Egyptians and the world's first river valley civilizations. Throughout this survey course, scholars study the Classical Age in the Mediterranean and East Asia, the fall of Rome and rise of Islam and feudal Europe, the medieval period across Afro-Eurasia, and the origins and impact of the European Renaissance.
6	**American History I** Scholars pick up where their fifth-grade World History course left off, investigating the European exploration of the Americas. They study the American native peoples, the consequences of European arrival, the early history of Africans in the Americas, the American Revolution and Constitution, and the development of the new United States. Scholars finish the year with the reform era of the 1830s and 1840s and grapple with one of the biggest cliffhangers of American history: sectionalism and the antebellum United States.
7	**American History II** Continuing with U.S. History, scholars focus on understanding the monumental social, political, and economic changes in the century from the Mexican-American War through the Great Depression. The Civil War and Reconstruction, Western Expansion, and the rise of a "modern" industrial United States on the brink of becoming a world superpower round out the year.
8	**Contemporary History Post-1945** In their final year of middle school, scholars take post-1945 U.S. History. Unlike other history programs that all too often rush to cover this period in a single unit or neglect it from the study of history entirely, we dedicate an entire year of instruction to this contemporary period in order to understand the key individuals, events, and debates that still shape our nation and our world. Throughout this course, scholars analyze the rise and fall of Nazi Germany, the origins, escalation, and end of the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, and key events in recent American and world history. In doing so, scholars grapple with the continuing implications of this recent history on society and public discourse today.

STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math

From a science, math, and technology perspective, our scholars will likely encounter futures that we can't even imagine. Scholars will need the skills to adjust to rapid-fire developments in these fields. Our STEM program empowers all scholars to think flexibly and analytically, and to systematically follow lines of insightful inquiry when faced with unfamiliar and challenging problems.

Each day, scholars have a STEM block consisting of two back-to-back, 75-minute sessions of science and math.

Math

We want all our scholars to develop into confident mathematicians, powerful qualitative thinkers, and productive problem-solvers. In math, scholars gain a deep understanding of mathematical concepts through contextualized applications, ultimately building an understanding based on reasoning — not just calculation.

We want our scholars to experience the satisfaction of perseverance and effective problem-solving, which is why we provide a program built on active engagement. Each day, scholars participate in a mini-lesson featuring new strategies and tools for rational problem-solving. After the mini-lesson, the real fun begins: Teachers present their class with engaging problems to solve in small groups. As always, we ask for evidence. They learn to assess unfamiliar problems, think about what they know and what they can assume about that problem, and then identify essential information that they'll need to arrive at a solution. Scholars devise a plan of attack and learn to evaluate whether an answer seems reasonable based on their original estimations. They share their answers and strategies with the class, and learn to evaluate, critique, and refine these various approaches to problem solving. In this way, math becomes a vehicle for teaching scholars to think critically both in the math classroom and beyond.

GRADE

5

Extending the Number System

In fifth grade, scholars establish a thorough understanding of how numbers work in decimal and fraction operations. We emphasize algebraic thinking, helping scholars understand how algebraic models and strategies reveal generalizable number patterns and relationships. We also dive into a foundational understanding of geometry, with lessons on surface area supporting future understandings of volume in sixth grade. Our fifth graders also begin measuring and analyzing data; they continue to do this through high school, as data analysis is an essential life skill, enabling scholars to "read" numbers and assess the story they tell.

6

Introduction to Proportional Reasoning

In sixth grade, scholars begin working with negative numbers, realizing that the number line extends beyond zero. After considering the implications of the number system, we're able to truly launch into expressions and equations, thus laying the groundwork for Algebra I. Perhaps most importantly, scholars take on ratios and proportions, which elevates their number sense to new levels of understanding. They're now able to identify proportional relationships, a fundamental skill needed for success in high school and college mathematics. Scholars continue building their foundation in geometry, and start to explore the idea of probability. Additionally, their emerging mastery of data analysis from fifth grade is advanced in our statistics unit.

7

Constant Rates and Proportionality

Seventh grade is an essential year in scholars' development as advanced mathematical thinkers. By the end of seventh grade, scholars know most of the math that they'll need for the SAT. Scholars learn to flexibly apply strategies to solve complex equations with decimals and fractions, and work regularly with percentages. They begin to understand real-world proportional reasoning — for example, by investigating if 30 is the new 20 based on our longer life expectancy. As they continue in-depth explorations of subjects such as ratios and proportions, relationships in the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, statistics, and probability, we witness scholars transforming into truly sophisticated mathematicians.

8

Algebra I

This year, eighth-grade scholars will take on the challenges of Algebra I, a course that extends and deepens their understanding of algebraic relationships. Scholars learn to create and reason with equations and inequalities, and to interpret and build functions. They grapple with minimum wage as they apply their understanding of constant rate of change to a real world debate. We continue to contextualize momentous mathematical developments, such as the Pythagorean Theorem — scholars come to see how great minds formalized this concept out of a fascination with the universe and its mysterious order. At the end of the year, scholars demonstrate their mathematical understanding on the Regents examination. Having completed Algebra I, scholars will be ready to take on Algebra II in high school, and Calculus their senior year.

Science

At Success Academy, we want all scholars to be truly excited about scientific discovery. Our science teachers are obsessed with sparking curiosity, because when scholars experience the joy of discovery, they become better scientists — and observant, engaged citizens.

In middle school, we prioritize the development of scholar independence and leadership in scientific inquiry. Each day, science consists of:

- A mini-lesson, where the teacher engages scholars in an interesting concept or task.
- An investigation, where scholars conduct experiments and solve problems to explore and explain scientific phenomena, under the guidance of the teacher.
- Discourse, where scholars discuss and debate their findings and work together to create common takeaways based on that day's investigation.

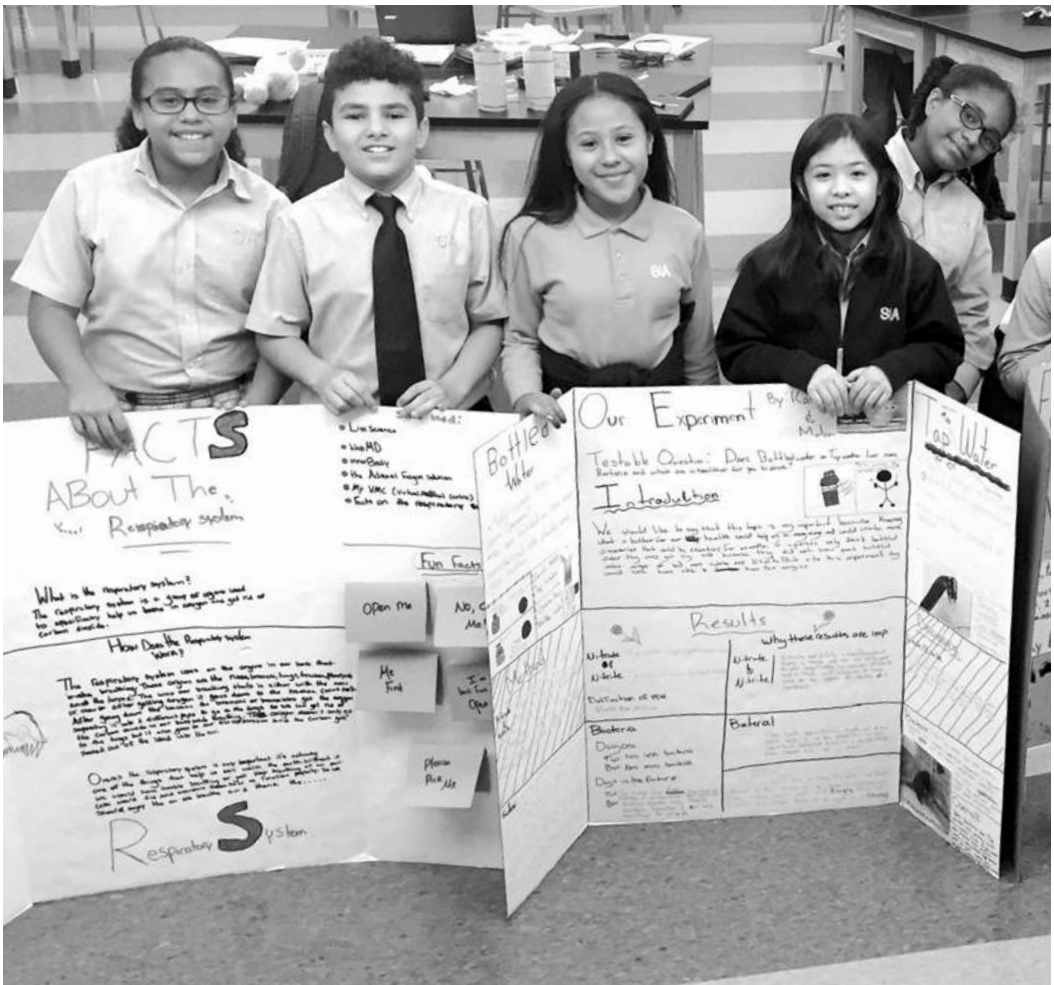
By the time our scholars enter fifth grade, they are already extraordinarily capable of thinking like scientists. They are excited to ask questions, observe, record, and apply their knowledge to make predictions. We capitalize on the solid foundation of our elementary science curriculum and push our scholars to dive deeper, dedicating each year of middle school to a particular scientific discipline. Our middle school scientists are also exposed to a robust computer science curriculum, building on and extending the coding skills they've developed in elementary school.

GRADE	
5	**Earth Science** Scholars begin their middle school science career by digging into Earth Science. As they consider the essential role of soil in sustaining life, scholars literally get their hands dirty by composing soil mixtures for plants. From the ground beneath their feet, to the vast infinity of the solar system, scholars learn about the planet we call home and the universe that surrounds it. We also introduce scholars to the ways humans impact the Earth — exploring the political implications of climate change, and the validity of scientific sources.
6	**Life Science** In sixth grade, scholars take a deep dive into Life Science. The major themes in biology are approached through several avenues—from observing the structures within a cell directly to modeling the spread of an imaginary zombie virus. Through the study of microbes, cells, and genetics, scholars learn to see themselves and the natural world from an entirely different perspective. Scholars study life systems at every level, from the organization of microscopic cells to the macroscopic organization of entire ecological systems. To conclude the year, they discover the underlying beauty of evolution, unity, and diversity.
7	**Chemistry** Seventh-grade scholars explore Chemistry, learning the implications of the atom as the most basic building block for all matter. They investigate how atoms combine and interact, and how the properties of different materials affect how they shape our world. Challenged to design their own solutions to real-world problems, seventh graders collaborate on the development of a filtration system to clean polluted water and the design of a survival shelter for stranded hikers. They end the year having learned the basics of matter's composition, physical and chemical changes, thermodynamics, and energy conservation.
8	**Physics and Mastery** Eighth grade is the capstone year for our middle schoolers, and they prepare for high school science by developing a strong foundation in Physics. Over the course of the year, magnetic cannons that propel steel balls (à la Newton), fantastical Rube Goldberg machines that creatively prolong simple tasks, and balloon-driven cars that race along the floor take over the classroom. Scholars explore the interactions of matter and energy, learning how energy can be transformed, and how humans harness the power of energy to simplify and improve everyday life.

Science Exploratorium

Science Exploratorium is Success Academy's fresh take on the traditional science fair. For one month each year, all middle school scholars complete independent projects and tackle complex engineering challenges, constructing and testing designs that they've developed themselves. This unit drives authentic excitement in the application of scientific knowledge to real-world phenomena, allowing everyone to stretch their wings by completing independent research. We also press scholars on the development of communication and presentation skills, and on using technology effectively and creatively.

The Exploratorium culminates in a celebration of projects in front of parents and the school community. Everyone involved enjoys watching the launch of a mini-catapult built from scratch, or examining a creative design for biodegradable packaging.



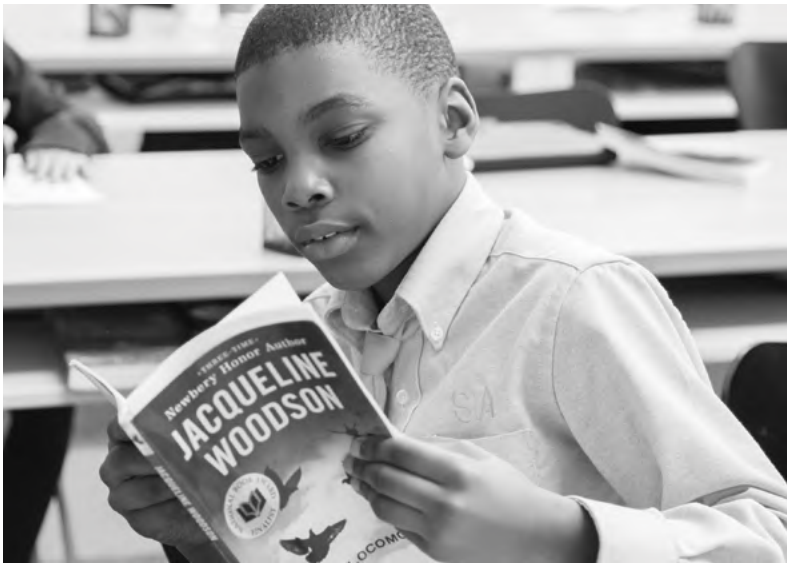
Advisory

Our goal is to prepare scholars to enroll and graduate from a college or university within four years, and middle school is a critical time for establishing lifelong habits in time management, goal-setting, and independent learning. Our morning Advisory block addresses and supports these aspects of academic and personal development, providing a dedicated time for scholars to discuss daily challenges and to develop close relationships with their Advisors (who are also teachers). Advisors also bridge the gap between a scholar's home and school life, serving as families' point of contact throughout the year and regularly contacting parents about their child's progress.

Scholars also undertake Independent Reading during the Advisory block, and receive Sex Education during this time.

Independent Reading

We are hard pressed to select one component of our curriculum that stands as the most essential, but we always come back to reading. Reading is the single most important activity for students to fall in love with: When scholars become great readers, they can teach themselves anything. Our scholars spend a block of time each day reading books of their choice, to cultivate reading habits that will carry them into high school and pave the way for college success. Scholars can choose print books from carefully curated classroom libraries, or e-books from Overdrive (our subscription provides thousands of options). They also have the option of listening to audiobooks. All scholars are given a subscription to Audible.com.



Electives

In middle school, scholars begin to take charge of their own learning. Our electives program is designed to give scholars more choice about which interests and talents to pursue. These classes are not considered extras — they're a vital part of the curriculum, serving as outlets for creativity, talent development, and self-expression. Scholars select one elective per trimester, which they study five days a week, allowing for sustained immersion in the subject. Electives vary by school, but can include Drama, Dance, Chorus, Painting and Drawing, Chess, Speech and Debate, Journalism, Robotics, Math Olympiad, or Entrepreneurship.

Visual Arts

In our studios, scholars gain the tools they need to navigate the visual world while becoming careful observers and problem-solvers. As artists, they grow into passionate "meaning-makers" by using art to explore and engage with their own ideas, their peers, and the world around them. Through independent and collaborative experimentation in various mediums — including clay, collage, construction, photography, painting, printmaking, and textiles — scholars gain technical skills and confidence in their ability to express themselves visually. Scholars also study the work of great artists, and pivotal artistic movements, considering their effects on humanity and on the progression of artistic expression, and developing their understanding that they are part of a global artists' community.

Performing Arts

Depending on the school, scholars can study music, dance, drama, or musical theater, and explore a variety of genres, styles, influences, and artists. After developing technical and creative facility while telling the stories of their imaginations, their lives, and their communities through a combination of existing work and original pieces, scholars showcase their work in live performances attended by the entire school community.

STEM Electives

We've launched STEM-specific electives for those scholars whose passion for investigation and problem-solving runs deep. Options include Robotics, where scholars can design, build, and code robots from the ground up; and Destination Imagination, a nationally recognized program that encourages creative scientific exploration by combining artistic and dramatic elements with scientific investigation.

Selective Chess

Learning and playing chess sharpens scholars' analytical instincts and teaches them to think strategically, control their impulses, make reasoned decisions, and compete with confidence. All of our scholars are introduced to chess in elementary school, which dramatically bolsters their critical and strategic thinking skills. By middle school, those scholars with high levels of skill and interest in chess can qualify for the SA Selective Chess Program, where they receive daily instruction and have access to chess tournaments throughout New York City. The top 20 highest-ranking scholars at each school travel to compete in Chess Nationals and receive additional training through zero period and Wednesday Chess Club. This program is currently offered at SA Bronx 1 MS, SA Bed-Stuy MS, SA Myrtle MS, SA Harlem East MS, SA Hudson Yards MS, and SA Midtown West MS.

Speech and Debate

Speech and Debate places agency in the hands of our scholars, allowing them to develop as active and engaged citizens both in school and in their own communities. Scholars drive their own learning in these classes, developing and leveraging active listening skills, insightful articulation, and in-depth research techniques. Debate builds flexible and logical thinking, by challenging scholars to defend both sides of any topic.

Scholars take on topics such as education reform, voter fraud, global warming, and criminal justice, and draw on a rich variety of sources and evidence to craft compelling arguments and demonstrate how these issues affect their own communities. Speech and Debate teachers work to supplement the interests and ideas of their scholars. For example, if scholars want to discuss black feminism, our teachers support their research and push scholars to find the evidence to build their opinions.

Scholars have accumulated numerous awards and honors in Speech and Debate on the intramural, local, and national levels, including a scholar placing 10th out of over 400 debaters at a national competition. This year, we established the Success Academy Debate League (SADL) and will host tournaments across NYC.

Sports

In sports electives, our scholars hone agility and athletic skills, learn the rules of the game, and collaborate as a team. We offer Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, and Cross Country Running electives. These classes are not treated like P.E., but instead function as teams — scholars practice together and represent their school in Saturday competitions against other school-teams in our network. This year, 12 schools and 270 scholars participated in our inter-network volleyball tournaments and 12 schools with 270 scholars participated in inter-network basketball.

Some schools also compete externally and have seen outstanding success over the years, including multiple championship wins by SA Harlem 1 and SA Harlem West in the Charter School Association basketball finals.

For the 2017–2018 school year, we'll also be launching basketball and volleyball Amateur Athletics Union (AAU) teams. These selective teams will consist of the network's best players, who will have the opportunity to represent Success Academy in both regional and national tournaments.

Selective Soccer

Our academy-style Soccer Program invites serious and talented young soccer players to train during and after school, on Saturdays, and in an intensive summer camp — the first tuition-free, club-style program that offers year-round soccer training as part of the school curriculum.

We've modeled the SA Soccer Program after top European soccer academies, providing players with individual soccer evaluations and personalized training, as well as the exciting opportunity to participate in external league play and tournaments. Invitations to participate are based on skill level, demonstrated in the SA Elementary Soccer Program. The program is currently offered at SA Harlem North Central MS.

Essential Logistics

Our middle school scholars and teachers enjoy the benefits of a block schedule format, which leverages extended periods of time to explore content areas in great detail.

Here is a sample schedule:

PERIOD	TIME (min)	CLASS
Arrival	7:20–8:00 (45)	Early Arrival
0	7:20–8:45 (85)	Teams & Clubs, Scholar Intervention, Study Hall (Sports begin at 7:20 AM)
Arrival	8:45–9:00 (15)	Full Arrival
1	9:00–9:45 (45)	Action Now, Independent Reading
2	9:48–12:18 (150)	Humanities
3	12:21–1:06 (45)	Lunch / Recess
4	1:09–1:54 (45)	Electives
5	1:57–4:27 (150)	STEM
Dismissal	4:30–4:45 (15)	Closing Routine and Dismissal

Zero Period: Zero Period is a daily block of time — from 7:20–8:45 — dedicated to study hall, academic intervention, or to clubs and sports team practice. Families will be informed if their children are required to attend Zero Period for academic intervention in math and/or reading. Otherwise, scholars can choose to join a club or sports team that meets daily. Alternatively, scholars are welcome to arrive early to school and use Zero Period to complete homework, independent reading, or other projects

Trimester: Our middle schools follow a trimester schedule. Trimester 1 ends November 17, Trimester 2 ends March 2, and Trimester 3 finishes with the end of the school year, in June.

Recess

We're old-fashioned in that we believe wholeheartedly in the importance of recess, even in middle school! We don't compromise on this free time; just like math and science, recess is a critical part of a scholar's day — and it is not optional. Every day, scholars have 20 minutes outdoors to exercise or socialize with peers.

Special Education

At Success Academy, we are committed to helping *all* of our scholars, including those with special needs, tackle challenging academic work and meet sky-high expectations. We have two possible settings for students with individual learning needs that require more targeted and robust supports: The Integrated Collaborative Teaching classrooms (ICT) and 12:1 or 12:1:1 classes (classes with no more than 12 scholars and 1 or 2 dedicated teachers). About 16 percent of Success Academy scholars receive special education supports.

Our middle school schedule also includes a Zero Period intervention time, during which select scholars receive targeted support to ensure they meet relevant academic benchmarks.

Our special education teachers receive ongoing training to ensure they are experienced in the most current, research-based practices for supporting students with specialized learning needs. Currently, 65 Success Academy teachers are pursuing a Master of Science in Special Education and Professional Certificate in Students with Disabilities through a partnership with Hunter College School of Education, one of the most highly rated education schools in the country.

ACTION Values and Building Moral Character

We believe that character development is an important part of schooling, and the middle school grades are particularly vital years, when scholars are growing into themselves as moral citizens and dedicated learners. We continue to guide the development of strong character in all our scholars by upholding our ACTION values, and placing increasing emphasis on academic integrity, a sense of responsibility both on and off school grounds, and understanding the heightened consequences of breaching codes of conduct.

Parent Engagement

At Success Academy, we work hard to ensure scholars achieve the highest levels of academic mastery — but we can't do it alone. From ensuring that homework is done to emphasizing academic integrity to modeling effective time-management, parents play an essential role in supporting scholars' academic progress. Your ongoing effort and oversight — and communication with teachers and leadership — are essential to helping your child excel.

Success Academy's powerful, rich, and comprehensive curriculum — developed, scrutinized, and refined over 12 years — is designed to ignite scholars' curiosity and love of learning, while cultivating an analytical and investigative mindset. We aim for all scholars to take ownership of their learning and develop keen interests and passions, and encourage you to visit your scholars' classrooms to observe the curriculum in action. We look forward to working with you to support scholars on this exciting intellectual journey.