In Lisle 202, we are committed to preparing our students for their next steps beyond high school and we know that the path for the future may look different for each and every child. That is why our District carefully plans and sequences the curriculum from Kindergarten through 12th Grade to ensure the students are exposed to essential academic skills, and have the option to engage in activities and experiences that go beyond the core subjects of reading, writing, and mathematics. Our goal is to help each student to discover interests and passions that may result in a career path when they move on from the halls of our schools.

Join us as we take a look in this issue at how our schools provide engaging opportunities beyond the core subjects for students to build valuable skills for the future.

Olivia R.
Criminal Justice
What is this? How does that work? How can I make this do that? These types of questions are common in the Lisle Elementary School STEM Lab (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Students are introduced to digital communication skills, computer graphics, software engineering, and circuitry concepts as early as Kindergarten to lay the foundation for complex tasks.

Students begin in the STEM lab building skills such as typing and word processing and progress to more complex concepts including problem solving and investigating how to design circuits to create a desired outcome. By the end of fifth grade, students have experienced coding, circuits, robotics, animation, 3D printing and more.

During their time at Lisle Elementary School, our students explore new ideas while learning foundational skills that build toward the career and technical education options available in the upper grades. And who knows, they may just find their passion at an early age that will lead to a future career!
I want to be an interior designer when I get older. I was able to spread my wings with this project and learn about concepts like balance in design.

Eva
7th Grade
Lisle Junior High School continues the exploration beyond the core subject areas by offering electives that allow students to further develop skills as well as discover new interests. Whether students apply the concepts of color theory and balance to design a space in family consumer sciences, create a marketing plan and pitch in entrepreneurship, build and code robots and drones in technology, or learn about graphic design using Photoshop in advanced computer skills, students are exposed to new topics, skills, and content that can lay the foundation for future careers.

Students should take elective classes to learn life skills that will help them in the future.

Chloe
8th Grade

Top: Technology class tests robot builds Left: Advanced Computer Skills class creates avatars and 3-D models Right: Family & Consumer Science class designs interior rooms
What are you going to do after high school? By the time our students are juniors, they are considering where to go to college and what their major will be, or what trade they would like to pursue, or if the military is the right path for their future. These can be daunting questions at 16, 17, or 18 years old!

Lisle High School recognizes that this may feel like an overwhelming decision, so students have access to higher level, career-focused elective opportunities during the school day in addition to their academic classes. Some electives are offered in-house, and some course experiences are available through our partner school, Technology Center of DuPage (TCD). Regardless of the location, students have the opportunity to gain valuable experience and expand their career readiness by the time they graduate from high school.

Applying the concepts from their classes through real-world experiences on field trip excursions is one way students build career readiness. This past September, students in the Advanced Placement Environmental Science (APES) and Advanced Placement Biology courses traveled to the Green Valley Forest Preserve to evaluate ecosystems. Herb Anderson, APES teacher, said of the trip, “Students were extremely engaged in applying the lessons from class to the real-world. The collaboration and discussion mirrors the type of interactions professional scientists have in the field.”

Lisle High School has also partnered with the Technology Center of DuPage to offer career and technical educational courses as part of the school day. Students can choose from 18 programs such as criminal justice, culinary arts, nursing assistant program, construction trades, automotive technology, fire science/emergency medical technician (EMT), and more. When senior Eric K. was asked why he chose to take classes at TCD he said, “It’s a good way to see what could be your future career and if you don’t make a career out of it, the classes give you basic education to do things yourself.”

In addition, designated TCD programs provide the option of earning college credit through the College of DuPage or a professional certification upon completion of the program. This benefit allows the students to enter the workforce or continue their education with foundational skills in their field of interest.
I want to become a nurse and the nursing assistant training program class at TCD will improve my chance of getting into a good nursing school.

Amanda H.
12th Grade, Nursing
Lisle High School seniors Dylan P., Anna G., and Isabella P. earned top recognitions this year from the National Merit Program. These three students were among more than 1.5 million of the most academically accomplished juniors in the nation who participated in the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in the fall of 2020. Dylan finished among the top 34,000 highest scorers nationwide earning the Commended Student recognition. Anna and Isabella finished among the top 16,000 highest scorers nationwide earning the Semi-Finalist recognition. Our two Semifinalists will now continue in the competition, competing for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly $30 million that will be offered this spring. Congratulations to Dylan, Anna, and Isabella for their accomplishments!

Lisle District 202 is committed to providing our learning community with the essential education, skills, and experiences for future success.

Lisle 202 is proud to announce that Lisle Junior High School has been recognized with GreatSchools.org’s 2021 Thrive Award! The first-of-its-kind award recognizes and celebrates public schools in Illinois that demonstrate positive, supportive learning environments, based on student and staff responses to the Illinois State Board of Education’s annual 5Essentials Survey. Survey results provide an overview of a school’s climate — information that’s important for families to understand but not easy to find. Lisle Junior High School is one of 452 schools across Illinois to receive the inaugural Thrive Award, which was given to only Illinois schools because of the Illinois State Board of Education’s transparent data policy that makes this critical school information publicly available.

We are #LionProud of the dedication of our students, teachers, staff, and families in making this recognition possible.

Stay Connected with Lisle 202!

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