



SOUTH SIDE
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Rockville Centre
Public Schools

Club Catalogue

2023-2024



Middle Years
Programme

"A Tradition of Caring."

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South Side Middle School and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP)

The MYP emphasizes intellectual challenge, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and to the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, intercultural understanding and global engagement, qualities that are essential for life in the 21st century.

South Side Middle School is an IB World School* authorized to offer the Middle Years Programme. IB World Schools share a common philosophy: a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that South Side Middle School believes is important for our students.

**Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme (DP), or the Career-related Programme (CP). For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit <http://www.ibo.org>*

IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with school, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and life-long learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

IB Learner Profile Attributes

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

Inquirers

They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Knowledgeable

They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers

They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators

They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled

They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded

They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities. They are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view, and are willing to grow from the experience.

Caring

They show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. They have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Risk-takers/Courageous

They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies. They are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs.

Balanced

They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective

They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

South Side Middle School

Mission Statement

South Side Middle School is a learning environment that provides students with opportunities to move toward the goal of being independent learners and thinkers. Our goal is to provide experiences to help students understand their unique aptitudes and interests and be able to adjust to their rapidly changing environment, while meeting their unique physical, intellectual, social, and emotional needs.

We strive to create a climate that enables students to develop a sense of self-worth, and have compassion and respect for others by valuing individual differences. We facilitate a caring learning environment where students feel safe, important and engaged. Our students demonstrate responsible global citizenship, and are cognizant of their place within the school community.

In this success-oriented environment, we provide opportunities for exploration and risk-taking. The structure of the school day is designed to permit students to reach the standards established by the New York State Board of Regents, while adhering to and embracing the framework of the IB Middle Years Programme. Our vision is to create life-long learners who seek to attain balance in all that they do.

Overview of South Side Middle School's Clubs

South Side Middle School's Clubs provide a variety of engaging age-appropriate, social and collaborative experiences. Whether the goal of the club is academic, athletic or constructivist in nature, enriching skill-building activities are prevalent in all clubs.

Annually, each club is encouraged to participate in a community service endeavor of their club's choosing. This community service endeavor may be school-centered, local, national, international and/or global and may be an annual commitment or an on-going commitment to "*service as action*" (*MYP: Projects guide*, 2017). Each spring, all club members will complete a **SSMS Service and Action Learning Experience Universal Reflection Form** regarding personal participation their club's community service endeavor (see pages 11-12 of this guide).

Action and Service Club:

The mission of the Action and Service Club is to promote and support community project and service activities. Members will have the opportunity to learn about community service opportunities and events. Support will be provided for students who wish to conduct their own community service activities and projects. All are welcome to come to one, some, or all of our meetings. Regular members will be eligible to join us on one field trip during the year. Check Club Central for meeting times and dates.

Art Club:

Art Club is open to all 6th, 7th and 8th graders of any skill level interested in an after school activity that provides materials, guidance and support for those students who seek a creative outlet in addition to their academic schedule. The Art Club collaborates with other clubs at SSMS to enhance their visual wants and needs. For example, the Art Club worked with the History Club to create posters for Veterans Day. Art Club strives to beautify the school itself creating a positive and colorful learning environment. Students design and decorate murals and bulletin boards. The Art Club raises funds for a variety of causes such as Grey Matters, which was developed to support a family in need after the father was stricken with brain cancer. Lastly, the Art Club reaches out into the community bringing art wherever they go. In the future, Art Club hopes to work school wide with the MYP community service plan, which will focus on recycling.

Board Game Club:

The South Side Middle School Board Game Club is one of the new clubs at the Middle School. Currently the club has procured numerous Chess sets to teach the game and allow for fun competitive tournaments. While still in its infancy our eventual goal is to increase our repertoire of games to include numerous fun, interactive, strategic games which cover a wide range of board game genres. We look forward to growing and giving students the opportunity to interact with each other outside the school day.

Booster Club

Do you want to show your school spirit and be an active participant in school fundraising? Join the Booster Club! As a Booster Club member, we will meet once a month to discuss fundraising ideas that can better enhance our school. Fundraising events will be in addition to monthly meetings, and group members will establish connections with their peers through the planning, organization, set up, and execution of these events!

Book Club:

The Book Club provides a space for students, in all grade levels, to enjoy current popular literature across all genres. Students meet once a month to discuss our previously chosen book. During discussions, students share questions and opinions. After our discussion, students provide suggestions for the next month's title and then vote. Annual author visits provide students with the opportunity to discuss the process of publishing and a glimpse at the author's process. Quite simply, the goal of the club is to develop and foster a love for reading!

Center Stage Squared Club:

Centre Stage Squared is an inclusive drama club that uses theater games to create friendships, foster self-esteem and build character and confidence in its members. Students of all abilities play improvisation and other theater games while learning the basics of stage techniques and choreography. This club works in conjunction with Best Buddies. We also participate in our main stage show with the High School Centre Stage Club.

Dance Club:

Dance club is open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders interested in learning routines in various styles of dance. Including hip hop, jazz, funk, kick, pom and more. We will develop proper techniques along with correct stretching skills to improve your performance. Together we will foster teamwork and help each other build and inspire our self confidence in our dancing.

Don't Press Send Club:

The Don't Press Send club teaches students how to take a mindful approach to social media. Social media plays a crucial part in our student's mental health. The purpose of the club is to educate students on how to use social media and learn to unplug. We promote ways to disconnect from social media. The club works closely with author Katie Schumacher. She comes to the club and talks to our students about the pros and cons of social media. Students will also have a chance to do community service work through promoting social media kindness and selling merchandise to raise funds.

Drama Club:

This club is open to sixth, seventh, and eighth graders whose goal is to engage students in a process which culminates in a public performance. By participating in the drama club, students learn through a variety of activities including vocal performance, acting, dancing, and the technical aspects of theater (lighting, sound, stagecraft, and dramaturgy).

Gay Straight Alliance Club:

The Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) Club is designed to help build respect and safety in our school for all students by forging connections between gender and sexual minority youth and their allies. The GSA focuses on raising awareness about diversity, social justice, and community service.

History Club:

The History Club's mission is to make History Come Alive and to understand the history of the Rockville Centre community. With various community service projects and fundraisers, students in this club learn how to give back to our community, while focusing on current events. This year we helped with the 100th year celebration by interviewing local citizens of the community. We run multiple fundraisers throughout the year, to help donate to local community organizations. In the spring we will take a fun, historical and exciting field trip. In the past, we have visited the Intrepid Museum, Sagamore Hill, Phillips House and the Vanderbilt Museum. All students are encouraged to join this fun club!

Home and Careers Club:

The South Side Middle School Home and Careers Club welcomes all students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade to participate in a hands-on environment. This club accommodates the MYP framework by emphasizing connections between academic studies and the real world. Students apply practical and creative thinking skills to solve design problems in various evolving mediums such as food and fabric. Club members work on various projects throughout the year that address the students' intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being. Service-learning and fundraiser projects connect the students to their communities and the world. Personal projects serve as a means of self-expression and empower the student to explore areas of interest in a safe, non-threatening arena.

Math Club:

The Math Club welcomes all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students who love math-and those who don't! This club provides an opportunity for students to challenge themselves in the area of mathematics. Students will experience fun and challenging math problems that promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students in the Math Club will have the opportunity to participate in grade level math competitions in the winter and spring.

National Junior Honor Society:

The purposes of the Middle School National Junior Honor Society are to create and foster an enthusiasm for superior scholarship, to develop citizenship, to stimulate a desire to serve, to promote leadership, and to instill exemplary qualities of character. Eligibility is based upon scholarship, service, leadership and character. The scholastic average of 92.5% will be determined by averaging the second, the third, and fourth marking period in 6th grade and the first three marking periods in 7th grade, with each quarter equally weighted. Eligible candidates will be required to complete an application, essay, and community service to indicate their involvement with regard to the five pillars of society: scholarship, citizenship, service, leadership, and character.

Robotics Club:

The robotics club serves as a way for students to further their engineering and problem solving skills. Through high-level Vex IQ competitions, students will design and construct robots to complete a specific goal. Students will utilize research strategies and interpersonal skill building to complete STEM focused presentations. This environment is highly demanding and requires significant dedication.

Rubik's Cube Club:

The purpose and goal of the Rubik's Cube Club is to provide a setting for students to come together in a social setting to learn how to solve a Rubik's Cube. While advancing their knowledge and speed in solving a Rubik's Cube, students are also acquiring important intellectual skills including independent thinking, strategy, logic, problem solving, and flexibility.

SADD Club:

SADD works to provide students with the information needed to help prevent them from making destructive decisions. We meet once or twice a month. The club participates in the Substance Abuse Walk, Red Ribbon week, events hosted by the RVC Youth Council and events sponsored by the High

School SADD Club. The club provides students the opportunity to discuss issues they feel are pertinent to them today in a safe and supportive environment. It also provides the means to be catalysts for change within the school by helping students make good choices.

School Store:

The purpose of the School Store is to provide students with a place to learn basic business skills. The students learn how to perform simple sales transactions. These can range from selling school supplies, birthday balloons, to collecting the proper amount of money, making change and tallying the total amount of money collected. The School Store is also a place where students' gain self-confidence and learn new social skills while interacting with their peers.

Stage/Tech Crew:

The purpose of the Stage/Tech Crew is to provide technical and backstage assistance for the two theatrical productions held here at South Side Middle School. Members assume the roles of Spotlight Operators, Curtain Pullers, Grips & Riggers (Backstage crew members) and Props Assistants for the Fall Revue and the Spring Musical. Working on the Stage/Tech Crew allows students to actively participate in the Drama productions, without having to perform onstage.

Student Council:

The student council and its elected representatives promote student involvement, provide a forum for student ideas, and assists in promoting the shared welfare of the school. It sponsors social events and facilitates campaigns and elections. In addition, a variety of community-related projects are planned and implemented throughout the school year.

Take a Look at Teaching Club:

The Take a Look at Teaching Club is for students interested in the education profession. It enables students to understand that they can make a lasting impression and a real difference in the lives of the children that they may or may not one day teach, as well as in the lives of their current peers.

Technology Club:

The Technology Club is a meeting place for those interested in the world of STEM. Members will join a community seeking to learn and advance their knowledge in computer coding, programming, design, and development. Students will complete self-paced coding challenges, and use club meetings to discuss their discoveries. Meetings will take place two Wednesdays a month in the computer lab.

TED-Ed Club:

The TED-Ed Club is a new club for the 2022-2023 school year. It gives students the opportunity to explore their interests and research topics that are important to them. The goal of the club is to get students to inform the Rockville Centre community of topics in education and/or their personal interests with a focus on how these ideas can be presented. The club will meet twice a week in which the students will be following three components of their TED-Ed experience: Discover, Develop, and Share. Students will first discover the ideas that interest them and how they can elaborate on that topic. In the development stage, the students will develop a recording of themselves with their topic. This phase will require multiple sessions of recording, editing, and practicing. In the sharing process

students, with the help and preparation of the facilitators, will present their TED-Ed talk to the club, the school, and then the community.

Trading Card/Pokemon Club:

The Trading Card Club is open to all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students interested in trading cards. The club encourages discussions of lore, gameplay, theory and strategies for using individual cards. The club spends time sharing and comparing various cards the members have collected. Trades are made and tournaments are played. We also analyze the value of some cards.

TV Broadcast Club:

The mission of the SSMS TV Broadcast Club is to broadcast the daily morning announcements throughout the school and provide videotaping services for school events, such as musical productions, concerts and assembly programs. Students work collaboratively as a television production crew to deliver an “on air” quality television broadcast, by preparing, setting up and executing the television production as either on-camera announcers or behind-the-scenes personnel. Students will specifically learn about the technology involved with television production, such as the video cameras, production switchers and audio mixer.

World Language Club:

The World Language Club gives students an opportunity to participate in intercultural activities outside of the classroom while promoting an understanding and respect for other cultures and practices. During meetings members will have an opportunity to inquire, learn and discuss different cultural practices around the world. Our club objectives will be as follows: promote cultural understanding through fun activities, provide students with an opportunity to learn about other cultures in a respectful environment, and encourage students to become active learners outside of the classroom.

Yearbook Club:

Yearbook Club is open to any student in all grades and is a great way to become involved at South Side Middle School. Club members photograph school events and activities, develop an overall theme for the yearbook, capture the memories and assist in page design and layout using an online program. Students will also help in fundraising efforts and advertisement.

Visit “Club Central” on the first floor next to room 112 for all club postings and updates!

SOUTH SIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
CLUBS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Information regarding club meeting dates, times, locations and advisors is posted on the bulletin board outside of the Guidance Office and on the SSMS website in late September.

Action and Service Club
Art Club
Board Game Club
Booster Club
Book Club
Center Stage Squared Club
Dance Club
Don't Press Send Club
Drama Club
Gay Straight Alliance Club
History Club
Home & Careers Club
Math Club
National Junior Honor Society
Robotics Club
Rubik's Cube Club
SADD Club
School Store
*Stage/Tech Crew
Student Council
Take a Look at Teaching Club
Technology Club
Ted Ed Club
Trading Card Club/ Pokemon Club
TV Broadcast Club
World Language Club
Yearbook Club

Service and Action Learning Experience Universal Reflection Form

Name: _____ Grade: (circle one) 6 7 8

Class or Club: _____ Teacher or Club Supervisor Name/s: _____

Service Learning Definitions:

Action = participating in a service experience. This includes the level of engagement you show throughout and your ability to interact effectively with other group members and members of the public. It may also include the investigation and/or preparation or the service learning experience.

Reflection = the quality and accuracy of your reflection after the service learning experience.

Demonstration = what and how you have learned, recording **evidence** of your participation in the service learning experience.

Evidence of participation = photographs, quotes or comments from supervisors or participants, scanned planning documents, name tags, certificates, videos clips.

Name of the service learning experience: _____

Location where the service and action occurred: _____

Date of the service learning experience: _____

Reflect on your performance and participation:

Please choose 4 questions from the list below to reflect upon on the back of this form...

- a. How was this service learning experience a challenge for me?
- b. How was I an active participant in investigating or preparing for this activity?
- c. How did my participation in this service learning experience increase my awareness of the community I am a part of?
- d. How did I work collaboratively with others involved in the service learning experience?
- e. What new things did I learn from participating in this service learning experience?
- f. How did I increase my awareness of my strengths and my areas for growth?
- g. What new skills did I develop by participating in this service learning experience?
- h. How did I help other by participating in this service learning experience?
- i. In what ways was I committed during this service learning experience?
- j. How was this experience related to issues of global importance?
- k. What did I hope to accomplish by engaging in this service leaning experience? What did I actually accomplish?
- l. What difficulties did I encounter?
- m. Did anyone help me during this experience? If so, describe the help given.
- n. How did this experience benefit other people, the environment, animals or the community?
- o. What would I change if I participated in the same experience again?
- p. What would I like to do next if I can continue with this activity?

(IBO, *Approaches to learning, inquiry and service teacher support material*, OCC, 2015)

Examples of Service and Action: Service Learning Experience Opportunities

Animal shelters

Book drive

Charity event

Childcare

Clothing drive

Cook for a family in need

Environmental

Food drive for different causes

Food shop for a family in need

Do a fundraiser or awareness walk and donate the money to a charity

Mayor Teen Task Force

Non-profit organizations

Peer Tutoring – literacy and support

Poverty

Public Library - special programs, literacy programs

Recycling

Refereeing

Rehabilitation centers and hospitals

Safety

Senior citizen centers or assisted living facilities

Snow removal

Soup kitchen or shelter

Special needs services and centers

Tolerance and peace

Toy drive

Write letters to soldiers in hospitals