The Middle School years are an exciting time of growth and change. During this defining period, Poly provides a safe environment where students can grow from childhood to adolescence with the support of peers and the guidance of caring teachers. Here at Poly, students experience the necessary balance of playful and joyful learning; increased independence and responsibility to ensure their healthy intellectual, personal, and social development; and discipline and structure.

By offering a variety of academic, artistic, athletic, outdoor education, and service experiences, students begin to answer the essential question of adolescence: “Who am I and where do I want to go?”

We offer creative teaching that empowers students to take risks and discover new talents. Collaborative projects reinforce the importance of cooperation and collective achievement, while interdisciplinary learning helps students make meaningful connections between coursework and real life, and helps foster understanding and concern for others. Field trips, community outreach, guest speakers, assemblies, and other events expose our students to the outside world, and we consider all of these essential to learning.

Across all grades, our program values critical thinking that challenges students to analyze information and form their own opinions. Our students learn to think critically about the world, share their thoughts and ideas, express themselves creatively, and demonstrate sincere care for others.
Discover your inner writer, artist, mathematician, chemist, linguist, and historian

**ENGLISH**
The Middle School English Department begins a seven-year sequence (which continues into the Upper School) designed to progressively develop students’ critical reading, writing skills, proficiency in English grammar, and appreciation for the expressive power of language.

**HISTORY**
The history curriculum begins with Ancient History (sixth grade) and proceeds to World Cultures and Geography (seventh) and U.S. History (eighth). We strive to develop students’ skills in analytical reading, research, writing, and oral expression in preparation for advanced research projects.

**MATHEMATICS**
Polytechnic’s K-12 mathematics program focuses on conceptual understanding — the “why” and not just the procedural understanding of “how” to solve a problem. In sixth through eighth grades, we expand on concepts introduced in the Lower School, culminating in Algebra I in the eighth grade.

**PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS**
A sound arts education develops the whole child. Through the arts we foster problem solving, goal setting, self-expression, teamwork, poise, and risk taking. These help to nurture confidence and esteem as students engage with the world. We seek to prepare our students for a lifetime of artistic activity and appreciation.

**SCIENCE**
At the Middle School, we build upon students’ curiosity about the natural world and emphasize methods of scientific inquiry. Students learn to design single-variable experiments and delve more deeply into both life science and physical science.

**WORLD LANGUAGES**
Poly’s World Languages Department prepares students to participate effectively in a multilingual and multicultural society. Building on our Lower School program, students choose to continue in Spanish or begin a study of French, Latin, or Mandarin. We emphasize alpha proficiency, and students develop communication skills through four basic areas of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
Learn more about Middle School grade levels and courses at www.polytechnic.org
Go beyond the classroom and connect to the world

**BLOCK PROGRAM**

Once a week, students participate in extended Block classes which take them beyond the confines of the traditional curriculum. Classes include hiking/outdoor education, introduction to debate, on- and off-campus community engagement, cooking, robotics, MathCounts, Science Olympiad, filmmaking, yearbook, and much more.

**GLOBAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM**

In Middle School, Poly students are exposed to a wide variety of curricular offerings that address international topics and global issues. GIP brings in guest speakers and programs addressing global awareness and interdisciplinary initiatives. The World Languages program focuses beyond the borders of Poly with field trips and culturally rich units that teach students about the diverse peoples where each language is spoken.

**STUDENT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Students are empowered to serve the community and the world by raising their voice and taking direct action. Using the Global Goals for Sustainable Development as a framework, students identify a local need, research strategies to help, and deliver solutions. Each week during Block period, they support a variety of programs, including Families Forward, local elementary schools, and Poly’s own Lower School.
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Through exploration, adventure, and physical challenge, the Outdoor Education program develops each student’s self-confidence, sense of personal responsibility, understanding of community, and appreciation for the world. Students participate in one trip per school year, exploring alpine environments, desert camping, and water-based expeditions.

For a full description of our extracurricular programs, visit www.polytechnic.org
Exceptional facilities and a beautiful campus support all our programs

On Poly’s open-air campus, you’ll discover three school divisions uniquely suited to the needs of elementary, middle, and high school students. Our Middle School facilities include:

- The Lower and Middle School Library, which houses an innovation lab and media center and dedicated space on the second floor where Middle School students can study and find assistance for independent research;

- Three laboratory-classrooms, where students explore life science, physical science, robotics, and more;

- Plentiful rehearsal and performance spaces for music, drama, and dance;

- Multiple fine arts studios that support a wide range of media, including painting, ceramics, woodworking, enamelng and digital art;

- Large playing fields, a pool, and two gymnasiums that support 10 interscholastic sports. Starting in seventh grade, Poly students have the opportunity to participate in every Middle School sport offered.

Read about the latest Poly news at www.polytechnic.org/news.
112
YEARS OF AMBITIOUS LEARNING AND LIFE-LONG FRIENDSHIPS

23%
OF POLY FAMILIES RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE OF 18

10
INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS TO EXPLORE: GO PANTHERS!

5:1
STUDENT TEACHER RATIO

1
REPLICA OF ROME BUILT ANNUALLY BY THE SIXTH GRADE

Find the steps to apply at www.polytechnic.org
Notice Of Nondiscriminatory Policy As To Students: Polytechnic School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, gender, or sexual orientation in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

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The Middle School at Poly is part of a broader educational program that includes both the Lower School and the Upper School. Our K-12 structure allows teachers to invest deeply in each child's development for the long term. To learn more about all three schools at Poly, visit www.polytechnic.org.