

LOWER SCHOOL

OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Students learn best through the active pursuit of knowledge and the relevant application of that knowledge. We believe this is best achieved in a community that fosters critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, personal responsibility, and intellectual risk-taking in a safe and open environment. ESD educators endeavor to guide students through inquiry-based, real-world learning experiences that yield enduring understanding and encourage students to become life-long learners in an ever-changing global society.

Our goal in the Early Childhood and Elementary grades is to create a challenging academic environment that also allows each child to develop his or her own unique talents and abilities. The curriculum design is guided by the belief that active, hands-on experiences emphasizing the relationship among disciplines make learning most meaningful for young children. Learning experiences are organized to maintain continuity in learning and to ensure that the treatment of concepts grows in complexity and generality as the student develops. We strive to design and implement a program that encourages students to make connections, ask questions, solve problems, and think independently.

For a detailed look at our Lower School curriculum by discipline, please visit www.esdallas.org/lowerschool.

PROGRAM HOURS

Half Day Beginner 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Full Day Beginner 8:00 A.M. - 2:30 P.M. – First Grade

Second – Fourth Grade 8:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

TYPICAL CLASS SIZE	STUDENTS	FACULTY PER HOMEROOM
Full Day Beginner	8 - 10	one teacher one instructional aide
Half Day Beginner	8 - 10	one teacher one instructional aide
Pre-K	3 sections of 12 - 15	two teachers
Kindergarten	4 sections of 14 - 15	one teacher one instructional aide
Primer	12 - 14	one teacher one instructional aide
First Grade	4 sections of 16 - 17	one teacher
Second Grade	4 sections of 16 - 17	one teacher
Third Grade	4 sections of 17 - 18	departmentalization of core subjects
Fourth Grade	4 sections of 17 - 18	departmentalization of core subjects

ESD has two full-time Certified Academic Language Therapists supporting all grade levels.

The Lower School operates on a four-day rotating block schedule which includes the following enrichment classes: P.E., Music, Art, Spanish, Computer Lab, Science Lab, and Library.

All students, faculty and staff attend daily Chapel





Before and after school care is available:
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
2:30 PM - 6:00 PM

LOWER SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Boy Scouts

Brownies/Girl Scouts

Chess Club

Engineering

ESD Sports Fellowship

Girls on the Run

Hand Bell Club

Just Skip It

Marathon Kids

Math Olympiads

Piano Instruction

Strings Club



LET'S DO LUNCH!



Half Day Beginner

- lunch not eaten at school
- snacks provided by the school

Full Day Beginner and Pre-Kindergarten

- lunch sent from home
- snacks provided by the school

Kindergarten -Fourth Grade

 SAGE provides delicious and nutritious lunches and snacks

THE HALLMARKS OF AN ESD EDUCATION











All students, faculty and staff sign ESD's Code of Conduct pledging honor, respect and integrity.



FALL 2019

New ESD Lower School to open on Merrell Road campus.