



Communication Arts

at Hilton Elementary School

225 River Road • Newport News, VA 23601

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What is the Communication Arts magnet program?

The Communication Arts magnet program provides a comprehensive, well-balanced academic program focusing on extensive reading, writing and oral communication. Students will establish a solid foundation in the English language with an emphasis on reading, writing, oral and visual communications. Students in grades 4 – 5 will receive an introduction to Spanish.

In the program, students are immersed in the various genres of award-winning literature. The program will foster the development of students' oral communication skills through poetry recitations, public speaking and interdisciplinary student performances. Additionally, communication skills are enhanced through student writings to include poetry, prose and nonfiction pieces. Students learn to communicate using various media and technology and develop an understanding of music and visual arts as important tools of communication. The program places a strong emphasis on community involvement. Through community service projects, students and staff work to enrich our local and global communities.



What is distinctive about the magnet program?

- Introduction to world language instruction
- Enriched literature program with a strong emphasis on reading various genres of literature
- Strong emphasis on various types of writing to include poetry, prose and nonfiction
- Regular oratorical components such as public speaking, poetry recitation and elaborate student performances
- Emphasis on integration of art, music, physical education and media studies with all content area subjects
- Community/ service projects



What does the program require of parents?

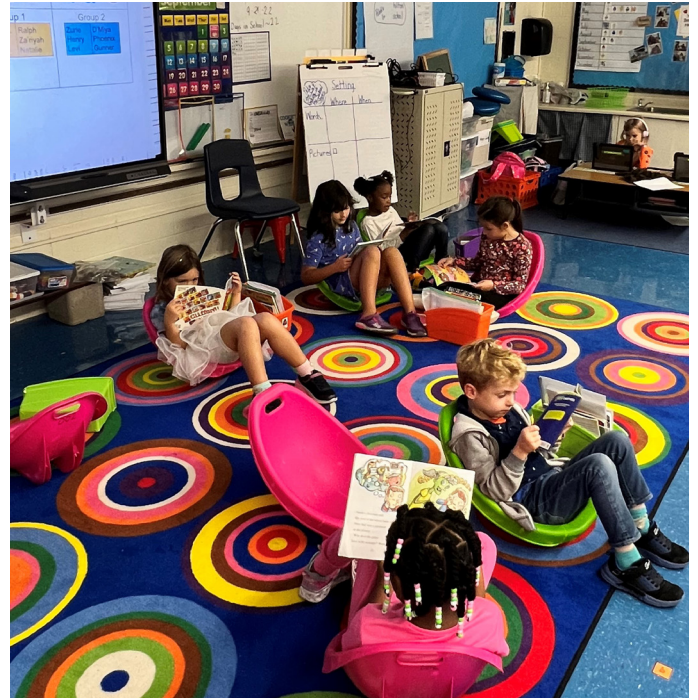
Parents are expected to:

- Be involved in their children's education
- Communicate regularly with teachers
- Provide daily study time at home and supervise homework
- Provide a place and encourage their children to read various forms of literature assigned and for enjoyment
- Have their children complete writings and projects independently
- Play audience to their children as they practice for their oratorical presentations
- Uphold the program's standards and expectations
- Ensure that students attend school regularly and arrive on time
- Sign and adhere to parent/student/school contract

Who is eligible?

All first through fifth grade Newport News students are eligible to apply for the Communication Arts magnet program. The program is especially appropriate for self-directed students who have a strong interest in reading challenging literature, which varies in length and includes fiction and nonfiction. The program is also suited for student writers to fully explore written communication. These students are motivated and focused to write poetry, prose and letters and conduct research. Students spend time writing in every content area. The verbal communication component focuses on oratorical skills, oral presentation, interdisciplinary performances and introduction to a foreign language.

Students are selected by computer lottery. Siblings of current communication arts first through fourth grade magnet students will receive priority admission for the following school year.



How do I apply for the magnet program?

All students who wish to attend magnet programs must submit a Magnet School Application by the December deadline. Magnet applications must be submitted electronically. Links to magnet applications are available on the Newport News Public Schools website at www.nnschools.org/magnet. For additional assistance, please contact the NNPS Magnet Office at 757-283-7850 ext. #10206.

Transportation is provided to all magnet program students who reside in Newport News.

How can I find additional information?

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