

Whole Schools Initiative

Saint Richard Catholic School has a rich tradition in the arts. Our work with the Whole Schools Initiative is supported through the Mississippi Arts Commission. This partnership brings artists and educators together for collaboration to integrate the arts into all aspects of the curriculum, to provide professional development for teachers to effectively use the arts to engage all learners, and to allow students at Saint Richard to receive enriching arts experiences through dance, music, visual art, and drama. We are continually recognized by the Mississippi Arts Commission as a Whole Schools Initiative Model School for our outstanding work in integrating the arts throughout our curriculum and throughout our school culture.

The Kennedy Center defines arts integration as an approach to teaching in which students construct and demonstrate understanding through an art form. Students engage in a creative process which connects an art form and another subject area and meets evolving objectives in both. Our teachers utilize this approach to extend learning for all students and to meet the needs of our diverse body of learners. Students reach higher levels of learning and thinking as they apply their knowledge through an art form.