



FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Innovative Programming

2018 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Thursday, April 26

6:00-7:00PM in Franklin Auditorium

Learn about the program, meet the KITE Staff, see student work, and explore the KITE learning space.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Lucas Ptacek, Principal at Franklin

Phone: (319) 558-2452

Email: lpatacek@cr.k12.ia.us

Visit Franklin Website

<http://franklin.cr.k12.ia.us/our-school/kite-program/>



2018-19

Information Brochure

What is the KITE program?

KITE is *Knowledge-based Inquiry through Teamwork and Exploration*. The program offers a flexible approach to the “traditional” classroom. Students will work with a smaller number of teachers to receive their curricular work in the subjects of Language Arts, Literacy, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The cross-curricular approach will include direct instruction with the addition of module and project-based learning work. The program will also place an emphasis on community-involvement. Community-based projects will be embedded into instruction and will provide enrichment for student learning and personal growth.

Why are we doing this?

The Cedar Rapids Community School District believes in innovative programs across the district to personalize the learning and meet the needs of the students. We know that the way students learn varies and the traditional model of yesteryear is not ideal for everyone. In the first two years of KITE, we have seen positive results when comparing student data that includes absences, tardies, referrals, and grades.

What type of student do we envision for KITE?

All students are encouraged to learn more about KITE. There’s not one characteristic that makes up a KITE student. We envision students who are willing to be independent learners, creative, open to new ideas, willing to be a team member, and wanting to maximize their participation in the school environment, as well as in the community.

What will the student’s day look like?

Learning will be completed using a variety of methods that include direct instruction, project, and module work. Working together as a team will be a large part of how students work, however, students will also be working through items independently, some at their own pace. In some cases stu-

dents will receive their Math & Science instruction outside of the KITE classrooms. Also outside the program students will receive their Exploratories (Art, Computer Science, Engineering Technology, and Wellness) along with PE/Music.

How will subjects be taught and how will students be assessed?

With content being cross-curricular teachers will lesson plan based on the priority standards in each of the subject areas. Priority standards will drive the instruction as well as how students are assessed. The program will function using the Learner Centered Assessment (Standards-based grading) model where students must demonstrate proficiency.

How will we select students for KITE?

Families will need to complete the online application form. We will open up a certain amount of spots at each of our four feeder schools: Arthur, Garfield, Kenwood, and Pierce. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of spots available we will conduct a lottery to assign spots in the program. We will have an overflow list that will hold spots for students if openings occur at the start of or during the school year.

When do we fill out the application?

The application process is not intended to be time consuming so it will be very short asking very brief questions. The application will be accessible online through the Franklin Website: <http://franklin.cr.k12.ia.us>. Families can also pick up a hard copy application in the main office at their child’s elementary school. The window for applications is April 18-May 4. We will compile applications and notify families towards the end of May.