

- C. Patterns of grammar, usage and mechanics should be taught in context along with a conceptual understanding of sentence structure in order to produce literate students. Grammar, usage, and mechanics are learned best when applied in purposeful writing
- D. Spelling is an instructional component of the integrated language arts program. Since it is so closely interrelated with reading and writing skills, materials selected should be consistent with the rest of the integrated language arts program. Vocabulary is taught and developed in context throughout lessons and across all curriculum areas.
- E. Manuscript writing is taught in grade one and transition to cursive writing is taught in grade two. Formation of letters and size of writing continue to be guided in the lower grades. In grades five through eight legible and neat handwriting is emphasized and encouraged.

2. Mathematics

The Mathematics Curriculum in the Diocese of Harrisburg is divided into grade levels continuing from Kindergarten to Grade 8. The Diocesan time schedule provides a single block of time for mathematics, in order to insure sufficient time for presentation and application of skills within a lesson format.

The curriculum is a carefully planned spiral program written according to the National Council of Teachers' of Mathematics standards. These topical strands are developed according to content, strategies and assessment practices. Maintenance and mastery of basic skills and metrics are stressed. The use of manipulatives should be incorporated extensively when introducing and reinforcing mathematical concepts.

3. Social Studies

The content of the Social Studies Program is interdisciplinary with emphasis on history, geography, economics and current events. It involves the integration of all aspects of the culture of peoples including, but not limited to, religion, place in time and space, and interaction with other persons and nature. Social Studies in a Catholic school prepares students to become well informed and responsible citizens in a global community.

4. Science

The Science Program in the elementary school is intended to impart information and develop skills, but to stimulate curiosity, arouse wonder and engender respect. Teachers are encouraged to follow a lab and experience-oriented program. In grades K-3 teachers are encouraged to involve students in activities without the use of textbooks. Consistent with Project 2061, the Science literacy recommendations, life, earth and physical science are taught in an integrated program in grades 3-8.