### Bishop Woods Architecture & Design

#### MAGNET • SCHOOL

#### What's a magnet school?

#### It's a good thing!

Magnet schools have a focused theme and aligned curricula. Magnet schools are typically more "hands on – minds on" and use an approach to learning that is inquiry or performance/project based. They use state, district, or Common Core standards in all subject areas, however, they are taught within the overall theme of the school.

Diversity is an important element of a magnet school... Students from a

wide array of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds attend magnet schools. As a result, they promote higher level cognitive and social learning. Magnet schools make the extra effort to create a sense of classroom and school community. Curriculum is clear and transparent for families so they can fully engage in the learning of their children.

#### The Benefit of Being a Magnet School

Magnet schools boast more parental and community involvement, more personalization through theme-based education, and specialized programs that create a shared sense of community that leads to a safer environment for learning.

Magnet Schools of America

## What does it mean for my child?

Current students of Bishop Woods do not need to reapply to Bishop Woods. We look forward to providing them with the new opportunities afforded to us by our new magnet theme! Any open positions in the school are being filled in accordance with the policies of the New Haven Public Schools Office of Choice and Enrollment.

#### Next Steps

We are presently in the implementation stage of the magnet program. Since our school's theme is Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) through the lenses of architecture and design, our team is in the process of aligning the district curricular standards with the magnet units and lessons. In addition, we are going to be setting up a school makerspace, which will allow students to work collaboratively using both high and low tools. Students will work in a space that will allow them to work in a hands-on environment and develop critical thinking skills.

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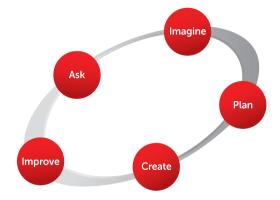
#### Why "Architecture and Design"?

Children are high-energy and inquisitive. They also respond well to activities that encourage them to explore the world around them. So, what better way to engage them than through projects that connect to building and construction?

Activities that have students work with tools, build and create their own structures, and interact with the world around them are engaging for elementary students and help strengthen their understanding of core subjects.

#### Architectural Websites for Kids to Explore

- ArchforKids.com ArchitectureisFun.com
- wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/ArchitectureKids
   Think Design Architecture
- sciencekids.co.nz/pictures/structures.html
- ArKidecture.org
- Cubekc.org (Center for Understanding the Built Environment)



**Engineering and Design Process** 

#### How can I help?

We are purchasing many materials for our Makerspace, however we can use the following recyclable materials (Clean, please!):

- Shoeboxes
- Egg cartons
- Flattened cardboard boxes
- Empty paper towel /toilet paper rolls
- Empty water, milk, and orange juice clear gallon jugs (as well as caps)
- Clear fruit containers (strawberries, blueberries, etc.)
- Empty spools of thread

The possibilities are endless! If you think it has value, it probably does!

We will set up boxes in the lobby for all donated recyclable materials.