

We are friends and teammates.

We value our diverse perspectives.



We challenge and support each other.

We change the world together.



We are

curious ethical, and authentic.

We are our best selves.



HERE@ MIROWITZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL
CAN BE JOYFUL!

WE KNOW!

WE SEE IT EVERY DAY!

HERE.

At Mirowitz, we believe that middle school years are about gaining skills and knowledge, and also strength of character and **self confidence**.

We prepare students for academic rigor, and also for **ethical leadership**.

We allow adolescents to focus on personal growth, yet understand their **responsibility to the world** around them.



It's safe
to be a teen. HERE.



Ready or not, your child is entering adolescence.

The sixth graders we welcome in August will barely resemble the eighth graders who graduate three years later. During their years at Mirowitz, they will undergo rapid physical, cognitive and social transformation. They will begin to think abstractly, cement attitudes about learning, and look to their peers to shape their values and self-worth.

The Mirowitz Middle School experience is organized to respond to the intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual and social needs of early adolescence. Adopting research-based practices used by the best middle schools in the country, we deliver top-tier academic offerings, while meeting the social and emotional needs of young teens.

MIROWITZ
MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENTS ARE well prepared.

HERE.

Our Core Curriculum combines an in-depth study of science, math and literature with classical Jewish texts and the richness of Jewish intellectual tradition. Teachers work with students to translate high academic expectations into learning that is challenging, exploratory and engages higher-order thinking.



Core competencies include:

- Exceptional verbal, technological and written communication skills.
- Collaborative skills.
- Creative thinking and problem solving.
- Leadership capacity.
- Organization, persistence and self-advocacy.
- Ability to synthesize and analyze.
- Appreciation of diverse perspectives, peoples, places and cultures.
- A personal connection to and nuanced understanding of Israel.
- An increasingly sophisticated Jewish lens through which to view the world.

WHAT KIDS LOVE MOST ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 10 Sports Teams
- 9 Leading Vaad Chesed
- 8 Robotics
- 7 BizTown
- 6 Ozer (advisory) Groups
- 5 Electives
- 4 Social Justice Trips
- 3 AMAZING teachers
- 2 We're practically family!
- 1 Going to ISRAEL!



We are learners. HERE.

What we learn:

Math: Singapore Math in 6th grade enhances quantitative reasoning and problem solving skills, and solidifies each student's proficiency with decimals, fractions and integers. In 7th and 8th grades, students study pre-algebra, algebra and/or geometry, and apply their mastery to solving real-world problems.

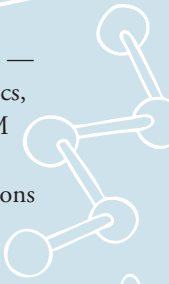
Language Arts: Students engage in close reading of different literary genres, from memoir to poetry to fiction. They learn to understand literal and figurative meaning in text, trace the development of major characters, analyze literary techniques and uncover universal themes. They will further develop the craft of personal narrative, expository and persuasive writing, and learn to write critical essays that include a thesis, evidence and citations.

Social Studies: The social studies curriculum exposes students to historical movements and philosophical concepts that have influenced the modern world. The program emphasizes the interpretation of historical documents, note taking, and critical thinking. Students are empowered to become active citizens and to play a role in shaping history books of the future.

Science: Laboratory sciences — earth science, astronomy, physics, biology, chemistry and STEAM projects — require students to uncover answers to their questions through thoughtful prediction, experimental design, data representation and analysis.

Hebrew: Hebrew language is taught daily with the intention of enhancing conversational, writing, reading and listening skills to connect students with the heritage language of the Jewish people. Students follow current events in Israel by reading publications and exploring other authentic Israeli material. The curriculum prepares them for their 8th grade trip to Israel and a life of Jewish learning.

Judaic Studies: The Judaic Studies curriculum revolves around the rich intellectual, cultural and historical legacies of our Jewish heritage. Students learn to embrace Jewish text as a resource that informs their values and moral commitments. They develop the skills and vocabulary to support their understanding of prayer and independent reading of texts in Hebrew. Students are encouraged to pursue a nuanced understanding of our world by connecting contemporary ethical, political and social issues with the ideas and language of these texts.



OUR DAYS ARE FILLED with meaning. *HERE.*

Period:	Lucas' Monday Schedule (6th grade)	Audrey's Wednesday Schedule (7th grade)	Zach's Friday Schedule (8th grade)
1st	T'fillah/Torah Service	T'fillah/Ozer (Advisory)	Medurah (Assembly)
2nd	Robotics	Drama	P.E.
3rd	P.E.	Band	Speech and Debate
4th	Social Studies	Biology	Geometry
5th	Hebrew	Hebrew	Hebrew
6th	Math	Social Studies	Language Arts
Lunch	Lunch and Recess	Lunch and Recess	Lunch and Recess
7th	Earth Science	Pre-Algebra	Judaics
8th	Language Arts	Judaics	Social Studies
9th	Judaics	Language Arts	Chemistry
			Kabblat Shabbat

T'fillah (prayer) is integral to Mirowitz's pluralistic experience. All students are encouraged to use multiple *siddurim* (prayerbooks) and to participate in both creative and traditional forms of Jewish prayer. Middle school students take greater responsibility for their individual and communal prayer experiences, developing and practicing skills that allow them to adeptly participate in, interpret and lead Jewish prayer.

Electives: With electives in humanities, sciences, Judaics and PE, students can pursue their interests and interact across grade-levels.

Past electives have included:

- Architects in Training
- BizTown (entrepreneurship)
- Breaking Barriers in History
- Code Blue (bio-medicine)
- Greek Mythology
- Hebrew Scribal Arts
- Israel on the Map
- Jewish Activists, Radicals and Troublemakers
- Math in Art
- Midrash and Music
- Playwriting
- Robotics
- Roller Coaster Science
- Sewing and Quilting
- Skateboard Science
- Speech and Debate
- TED Talks
- Yaldut Israelit

Encore classes encourage students to refine forms of self-expression. Students may choose from:

- Art
- Band
- Computer Programming
- Drama
- Fiber Arts
- Independent Study
- Technology
- Pottery
- Printmaking
- Yearbook Design

Athletics: The Middle School athletics program invites students of all levels to learn new skills and strategies, to understand what it means to be part of a team, to grow as leaders and to show Mirowitz pride. Coaches emphasize teamwork, integrity, positive attitude and effort. Athletes play interscholastically across three seasons and seven sports.

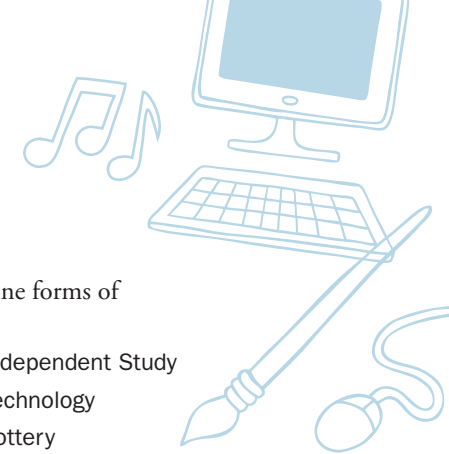
Sports Include:

- Girls Soccer
- Boys Soccer
- Girls Basketball
- Boys Basketball
- Flag Football
- Floor Hockey
- Volleyball



Other activities include:

- Chess Club
- Robotics
- Tae Kwon Do
- Art Studio
- Sewing Club
- Theater
- Vaad Chesed (student council)
- Yoga



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY is not optional.

To prepare to change the world,
you must see the world!

We start each school year with social justice trips designed to give students a profound look at world issues, to engage them in personal values clarification and connect them with one another across grade levels.

“I worry about what kind of world my boys will inherit. I want them to feel that their actions matter and that they can make a difference. I love that their school teaches this in a million ways.”

– Carly Sparks, parent

The trips are on a 3-year rotation:

Civil Rights Trip: A week in Montgomery, Memphis, Birmingham and Selma hearing first-hand stories from Civil Rights activists.

Environmental Sustainability Trip: A visit to a state park where students learn to be stewards of the earth.

World Hunger: A simulation experience at Heifer Ranch in Arkansas that raises awareness, empathy and a drive to find solutions to world hunger.

“We reenacted a march for voting rights, and I kept thinking that I should never take my privileges for granted.” – Adeena, 6th grade



Just before 8th grade graduation, students spend two weeks in Israel. Through meals of falafel and hummus, hikes up Masada and into Ein Avdat, a Torah service at the Kotel, interactions with Israeli peers, and an exuberant celebration of *Yom Haatzmaut* (Israeli Independence Day), the teens solidify all they have learned during their years at Mirowitz. They return with an understanding that the story of Israel is our story as a Jewish people and with a connection to Israel that impacts their future as Jewish leaders.

“I touched the Kotel and felt like I was connected to every single Jew in the history of the world in a way that I can not explain.”

– Ayden, 8th grade



I ♥ Israel!

MIDDLE SCHOOL by the numbers



30%

of our graduates are first- or second- generation immigrants.

80%

of our students play on our competitive sports teams.



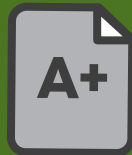
5:1

student teacher ratio



95%

of alumni take honors and AP classes in high school.



1st

68k

Average amount received in merit scholarship by alumni entering college

97%

of alumni participate in Jewish activities in high school.



92%

Mirowitz

89%

Independent Schools

86%

Public Schools

Mirowitz 8th graders consistently exceed public and independent school norms on ERB standardized tests.

Comparison of 8th grade performance on ERBs

WE BECOME leaders. HERE.



Mirowitz students reach their intellectual potential...but being smart is not enough.

Our alumni:

- Express a sense of responsibility toward influencing social values, helping those in need and effecting social change.
- Are more resistant to social pressures that lead to risky behaviors than their public and private school peers.
- Value the diversity of Jewish practice and maintain relationships that transcend and preserve the diversity of our community.
- Teach religious school classes, lead youth services and serve as youth ambassadors to congregational boards.
- Are equipped with a level of Jewish literacy and proficient knowledge of prayer.
- Feel connected to and well-informed about Israel, and are able to confidently take a stand on campus.



A majority of students who graduated from Mirowitz during the last five years are attending the following secondary schools:



- Clayton High School
- Crossroads College Prep
- John Burroughs School
- Ladue High School
- MICDS
- Parkway High Schools
- Rockwood High Schools
- Thomas Jefferson School
- Whitfield School
- Yeshivat Kadimah High School



MIROWITZ
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348 South Mason Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63141
314-576-6177
www.mirowitz.org