

**Mission Statement**  
South Side Middle School

South Side Middle School is a learning environment that provides students with opportunities to move toward the goal of being independent learners and thinkers. Our goal is to provide experiences to help students understand their unique aptitudes and interests and be able to adjust to their rapidly changing environment, while meeting their unique physical, intellectual, social, and emotional needs.

We strive to create a climate that enables students to develop a sense of self-worth, and have compassion and respect for others by valuing individual differences. We facilitate a caring learning environment where students feel safe, important and engaged. Our students demonstrate responsible global citizenship, and are cognizant of their place within the school community.

In this success-oriented environment, we provide opportunities for exploration and risk-taking. The structure of the school day is designed to permit students to reach the standards established by the New York State Board of Regents, while adhering to the Common Core State Standards and embracing the framework of the IB Middle Years Programme. Our vision is to create life-long learners who seek to attain balance in all that they do.