Memphis School of Excellence
Tuition-Free Exemplary College Preparatory School
Excellence & Equity in Science & Education
www.sememphis.org
Mission:
The mission of the Memphis School of Excellence (MSE) is to provide a safe and collaborative environment which will cultivate the academic and social development of its students by emphasizing math, science, and technology for the purpose of students setting and meeting higher educational goals.

From Students to Nobel Laureates
The vision of the Memphis School of Excellence is to enable each of its students with the tools they need to succeed in school and in the workplace, while providing options for them to enter math, science, and engineering careers. Our hope is to lead our students from the classroom into the world as productive and responsible citizens… and even Nobel laureates.

There are specific elements required to accomplish our vision, which include:
- enriched curricula and authentic assessment
- effective school management
- parental involvement
- technology integration
- sound financing
- leadership and character development
- safety
2010-2011 School Year Achievements
- MSE Science Olympiad Team placed second in the Regional Science Olympiad Tournament. Our school was the only public school invited to the state competition from the Memphis area.
- MSE won 7 awards at Memphis and Shelby County Regional Science Fair.
- The Broadcom Foundation and Society for Science & the Public (SSP) announced on August 15 the selection of 300 middle school students as semifinalists in the 2012 Broadcom MASTERS® nation-wide competition. One of our 7th grade students was awarded by The Broadcom Foundation and Society for Science & the Public (SSP) as one of the semifinalist.

2011-2012 School Year Achievements
- MSE students averaged a 23% increase in all state tested subject areas.
- MSE FLL Robotics team was awarded 3rd Place for the Best Mechanical Design out of 46 teams from all around Tennessee.
- MSE won 15 awards at the Memphis and Shelby County Regional Science Fair.
- MSE Science Olympiad team placed first in the Regional Science Olympiad Tournament. Our school was the only public school invited to the state competition from the Memphis area.

2012-2013 School Year Achievements
- MSE students averaged a 17% increase in all state tested subject areas.
- MSE FLL Robotics team was awarded 1st Place in the Robot Performance Category out of the 26 teams in the Tennessee West Region Robotics Championship.
- MSE won 13 awards at the Memphis and Shelby County Regional Science Fair.
- MSE Science Olympiad team placed second in the Regional Science Olympiad Tournament.
WHAT MAKES MSE SPECIAL

Shared Purpose
MSE students experience an academically challenging and supportive learning environment that promotes the realization of their full potential. The community supports the school’s mission, instructional goals, and priorities. These shared beliefs guide decision making and shape operational practices. MSE sets high expectations for students and continuously monitors their progress toward achieving these standards.

Individual Attention
Each and every student at MSE is to be regarded as a unique, valued, and vital member of the school community. Individual attention in the form of one-on-one tutoring, intensive counseling, and individualized computers, or engineering. Research shows that science fair projects have been a valuable means of applying the concept of the scientific method as well as a fun learning experience for the students.

Parental Involvement
Parental involvement is an essential part of MSE school model. The MSE Triangle of school, parent, and student is a model for any learning community.

Science for All
Science fairs are a tradition at MSE. Every MSE student works on a project of their interest in math, science,
WHAT MAKES MSE SPECIAL

College Prep Begins in 6th Grade
College-bound education starts in the 6th grade at MSE. Any lack of proficiency in core subjects is addressed while the student is young by starting its program in 6th grade.

Early Emphasis on Math and Science Education
Students of MSE start their specialized math and science instruction in the sixth grade, enabling them to receive a strong math and science foundation from highly qualified teachers at a young age.

Extended School Hours and Days
At MSE, we believe there is no reason why children cannot master the skills they need to succeed. Students who need academic improvement are provided extended after school and Saturday tutorials. These tutorials are powered by MSE’s database and dedicated educators to help students learn the concepts they are having difficulty mastering.

The extended hours are not only for those needing additional help; gifted & talented and advanced students also receive extended advanced instruction after school.
WHAT MSE OFFERS

FLL Robotics Program
MSE’s Robotics Program introduces younger students to real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. Students, guided by their imaginations and their teachers, discover exciting career possibilities and, through the process, learn to make positive contributions to society.

National Honor Society
Memphis School of Excellence held its 2nd annual program on February 20, 2014 to induct new members of the National Jr. Honor Society/ National Honor Society. We were proud to induct 42 new members. Inductees of the National Jr. Honor Society/National Honor Society students are those students who meet the criteria for scholarship, leadership, service, and character. We are proud to show students who manifest these characteristics that giving back to society through community service will reveal leadership skills that will transport them to great heights.

Your Child’s Potential
We encourage students to be prepared to think both critically and creatively, evaluate massive amounts of information, solve complex problems, and communicate well. MSE helps students realize their individual potentials by recognizing that excellence in learning is connected to long-range personal development. MSE works with the community to support students and families not to just educate your child in different subjects, but educate the child as a whole.

A. Keel-Pruitt/Dean of Discipline
WHAT MSE OFFERS

Safe, Small, Caring School Environment
MSE creates an inviting, safe, and purposeful environment in which students are educated in a friendly and wholesome atmosphere that encourages creative expression and a desire for knowledge. The small classrooms at MSE create an inviting, safe, and purposeful environment in which students can learn to their maximum potential. Faculty home visits establish a family, student, teacher connection which serves as a bridge between the school and home. Finally, the students, faculty, and parents show a dedication to high levels of academic success and achievement.

Positive Reinforcement
MSE students are required to wear uniforms, be punctual, and show respect to their friends and teachers. Harassment of other students is not tolerated. Children are provided with an atmosphere where learning is encouraged and not ridiculed by other students.

Home Visits
MSE teachers make home visits to the families of their students. During those visits, students, teachers, and parents talk about school-related subjects. Home visits help strengthen and fabricate a student-teacher-parent relationship.
WHAT MSE OFFERS

Soaring to Excellence
We believe that education is a shared responsibility and that the successful operation of a school depends on the cooperation of everyone concerned: students, parents, and staff. The mission of the Memphis School of Excellence is to create a partnership among the members of this triad. Each of us is responsible for doing our part to make our school a place where we can work and play together in harmony. The Memphis School of Excellence is a reflection of all of us. Our policies are intended to provide a safe and orderly environment that will be conducive to learning. Our faculty and staff look forward to sharing their expertise in academics, special programs, and extracurricular activities. We encourage you to get to know our school, its programs, activities, and schedule. Become an active participant in our school. Get involved through classes, clubs, and activities. M. Turkay/Principal

Customizable and Efficient Performance Management in Action
MSE’s comprehensive school database was developed to assist all stakeholders in our community including students, parents, teachers and administrators.

Highly Qualified and Dedicated Community of Teachers
MSE teachers hold higher education degrees in their disciplines; these teachers are recruited from around the world. MSE’s model encourages teachers to engage in home visits with student families to build on the parent-student-teacher triad.

MSE’s parent portal gives parents real-time access to:
- student grades,
- homework,
- transcripts,
- discipline records and
- library data.
COLLEGE BOUND EDUCATION

The goal of high school programs at MSE is to prepare students for four year colleges and for life. To that end, the core curriculum in the high school grades is designed to give each student the essential elements of a college preparatory education along with opportunities to engage in the exploration of intense study of particular fields of interest.

COLLEGE GOING SCHOOL CULTURE

Students will experience the following opportunities:
• Rigorous coursework to prepare for college
• Dual credit courses
• Variety of AP selection
• Career Education classes in grades 9-12
• Interacting and studying with university professors/students
• Attending college fairs throughout the high school years

• Participation in college search trips
• One-on-one college counseling and early identification of appropriate career
College Counselling
Beginning in 9th grade, each student is assigned a faculty advisor. The student meets with the advisor on a regular basis to discuss issues related to academic progress and planning as well as to provide support and encouragement. The advisor serves as an advocate for the student and is the main contact person for course placements.

College Planning
A guidance counselor is available to students as they prepare for college. Students receive assistance with academic issues throughout high school including: PSAT/NMSQT, SAT test, college search, college application, financial aid process, scholarships, and internship placements.

Career Orientation Class
Career Orientation class is an activity-based, occupational awareness course. It is designed to provide students with a realistic picture of themselves and the world of work. The class emphasizes the decision-making process and centers on exploratory occupational research. The course content covers information needed by all students so that their educational experiences can be designed with their future career satisfaction in mind. The course will consist of instruction in the following areas: self-awareness, career awareness, including the 16 Career Clusters, career planning, education and training through high school and beyond, and employability skills. Students shall receive occupational information from a balance of sources, such as audio-visual aids, computer software, field trips, job shadows, lectures, and applied activities. At the completion of the course, the student shall develop a tentative education and training career plan.

The MSE Guidance and Counselling Center offers information and assistance concerning college scholarships, grants, community service opportunities, and prestigious academic competitions.
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

*Not all clubs may be offered at the same time

Club*

ACT/SAT  Math Counts
Animation  Math League
Arts and Crafts  Movies
Basketball  NHS/NJHS
Board Games  Reading
Cheerleading  Robotics
Chess  Science Olympia
Choir  Soccer
Creative Writing  Softball
Cross Country  Spelling Bee
Digital Graphic  Student Council
Drama  Theater & Performing
Drawing  Arts
Folk Dance  Track and Field
Home Economic  Video Production
Journalism  Volleyball
Knowledge Bowl  Web Mastering
Yearbook
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