

Multi-Age, Non-Graded, Continuous Classrooms

- Classrooms bring together grades K/1st, 2nd/3rd, & 4th/5th
- Continuity of classroom, peers, and teachers create a stability and comfort zone that promotes active learning
- Younger children model attitudes, expertise, and interactivity of the older children
- Multiage grouping provides older children with leadership opportunities
- Children begin to understand that each individual can offer strengths and weaknesses and how to work together to optimize our potentials
- Cross-classroom partnerships are also encouraged through "community rooms" and school-wide projects.

Assessment by Performance, Product and/or Demonstration

- Follows La Crosse School District curricula and testing
- Non-graded curriculum focuses on mastery of skills not traditional "letter" grade
- Children are encouraged to ask questions and seek answers, demonstrating knowledge gained and future focuses
- Careful observation highlights progress and development across the entire curriculum

Emphasis on Technology & Arts

- SOTA believes that creative experiences are directly linked to enhanced learning
- Children possess diverse developmental ranges, interests, and learning styles which can be reached most readily through art education
- Technology skills as well as self-expression fostered through the arts will be important life skills for our children
- Dance/Movement, music, drama/theater, media, visual arts are all highly emphasized
- Stringed instrument instruction begins in 1st grade

Joint Staff-Parent Governance

- Parent involvement and communication are expected and highly valued
- A variety of involvement opportunities allows parents of all families to provide their support
- Volunteering time, talents, ideas, and/or resources are all appreciated
- The SOTA 1 Steering Committee is an interactive staff/parent led group that works to support communication, involvement, and ultimately, community within our school

Why we choose and love



"I like SOTA 1 because of all the nice people and teachers, it feels like one big family."
-3rd grade student



"I think one of the greatest tools that SOTA gives our kids is confident self-expression. Emphasis on the arts enables the children to explore their opinions, ideas, and feelings in creative and meaningful ways."



"SOTA 1 is amazing because they give you many opportunities!"
-5th grade student



"I like SOTA 1 because we learn a lot, do fun activities and make good friends."
-4th grade student



"I love the multi-age classrooms and community room. Each student has a chance to create friendships with everyone in the school." -SOTA 1 parent

You Have A Choice



An Education Enhanced through Technology and the Arts

The School of Technology & the Arts: SOTA 1 School District of La Crosse Charter School

Housed within the Hamilton Elementary School
1111 South 7th Street • La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
(608) 789-7695



Additional Program Information

- The School of Technology & Arts opened its doors in August 1995
- Located at Hamilton Elementary School
- Current school family of about 120 students
- Curriculum continues through SOTA II at Lincoln Middle School
- Strives for diversity in student population
- Integrated thematic instruction and learning centers
- Builds each child's natural pattern of developmental growth
- Develops self-assessment within the learner
- Early dismissal on Wednesdays for teacher collaboration-Boys and Girls Club after school care available
- Transportation options available
- Both parent and staff available for questions and/or tours

For more information about this program, please call the
School of Technology and Arts
608-789-7695

The School District of La Crosse does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, religion, sexual orientation, or physical, emotional, or learning disabilities or handicap in its educational programs or activities. Federal law prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex or handicap.

What is the School of Technology & Arts?

The School of Technology and Arts (SOTA 1) is a public charter elementary school serving Kindergarten through Grade 5. SOTA 1 curriculum uniquely blends academic approaches with hands-on creative experiences that create a diverse, well-rounded education for children. SOTA 1 curriculum has been developed to create a strong sense of community and belonging among children, parents, and staff. This sense of community is essential to creating an environment where each individual child feels comfortable and confident as they begin their life-long journey of learning. We accomplish these goals by organizing the program around our four guiding constructs:

- Multiage, Non-Graded, Continuous Classrooms
- Assessment by Performance, Product and/or Demonstration
- Emphasis on Arts & Technology
- Joint Staff-Parent School Governance