

## **Description of our school and philosophy:**

**Inspire** is a collaboration between teachers, parents, students and community members, dedicated to creating a school that empowers students to explore and discover their personal talents and passions. It is our goal that Inspire students graduate with a vision of their future, motivating them to succeed in post-secondary education and in their future careers.

Our faculty and staff bring years of experience in creating and implementing successful educational programs that provide students with smaller, more personalized learning environments. ***We know that students learn best when they see connections between classroom instruction, their own personal passions and skills, and their academic and career futures.*** Inspire's instructional strategies and curriculum reveal those important connections, motivating our students to succeed.

### ***Inspire makes this possible by:***

- Providing a balanced curriculum of challenging academic courses and deep, rich Performing Arts, Fine Arts and Science/Engineering Major Programs.
- Building a schedule that allows students to take eight courses in a semester rather than the traditional six courses allowing them to build a balance of academic and core electives.
- Designing a "Advisory" program where students are partnered with an advisor and other advisees in their freshmen year and meet all four years with the same "family" within a family. At graduation, their advisor presents them with their diploma.

At their core, both art and science are about discovery. Because our goal is to help our students discover their own unique talents and personal passions, ***the arts and sciences are presented as a dual lens through which students view their learning and their experiences.*** Students apply core knowledge, scientific concepts, and knowledge and skills they develop in their major programs, to real-world problems and issues.

Inspire's curriculum is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need for success in college and careers. In addition to a comprehensive range of UC-approved courses in all academic areas, Inspire students explore their interests through academic electives such as Humanities, Integrated Science, or Cultural Geography. Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered in a number of curricular areas. Mentorships and internships are being developed which allow juniors and seniors to explore areas of interest in more depth. Inspire students are encouraged to concurrently enroll in college courses at California State University Chico or Butte

College.

### ***Blending Personalization with Rigor***

Our **vision** is to provide learning opportunities for all students designed to do the following:

1. Create a learning environment in which teachers, staff and other adults know the needs, interests, and aspirations of each student, closely monitor each student's progress, and provide academic and other support each student needs to succeed.
2. Provide foundational skills in core academic areas through an engaging and challenging college preparatory curriculum.
3. Focus on applying skills and knowledge to real-world problems and situations wherever possible, thereby modeling for students how real practitioners (such as scientists, historians, physicians, legal experts) approach their craft.
4. Promote student academic, social, and emotional well-being, self-efficacy, and independence.
5. Provide opportunities for acceleration and enrichment, through partnerships with Butte College and CSU Chico. These partnerships may team high school and college teachers in designing and teaching curriculum, and will allow students to obtain college credit through articulation agreements.
6. Foster deep and ongoing engagement with parents, families, and community members. This will be accomplished through such activities as parent and community advisory groups, community and parent mentorships, opening classrooms and labs for activities that engage parents, students, faculty, and community members, and performances and outreach activities into the community.
7. Create a professional learning community among teachers, administrators, and other school leaders (both at the school site and within the district at large) that emphasizes cooperative professional learning.
8. Maintain a focus on promising educational practices and on the conditions necessary to bring about change in the learning skills, achievement, and success opportunities of historically underserved learners.
9. Enable students to become self-motivated, competent, and life-long learners.
10. Provide an environment where student creativity is valued and encouraged.
11. Create a school structure and course offerings that connect personal interests and skills in the areas of performing/visual arts and engineering to core content and instruction to enhance academic performance.