

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) Middle Age Cluster Classes (MACC)

Purpose

MACC is an interdisciplinary inquiry-based program, designed to support gifted students in challenging themselves, developing their intellectual capacity, and contributing to a collaborative community. MACC is responsive to the needs of gifted learners, whose intellectual, personal, and social skills may be developing at varying rates.

MACC allows opportunity for gifted learners:

- to be themselves, while developing the social and emotional skills essential for school and life
- to focus on collaborating with others and becoming a contributing member of a community
- to develop depth and breadth of knowledge, connecting their learning beyond the classroom
- to become self-directed learners, expressing their learning in many ways

MACC students are typically characterized by

- high task commitment
- social responsibility and collaboration with the other learners
- the ability to deal with complexity, divergence, open ended tasks and a willingness to take risks

Core Values

MACC aligns with School District No. 43 belief statements and works in conjunction with the guiding principles of middle school practice in the district. In particular, the MACC program embraces the following core values:

- instilling a passion for learning
- learners as the most important focus
- high quality and equitable learning opportunities
- innovation, creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking and sustainability
- essential value of district, community, and global partnerships
- safe, inclusive and socially responsible learning communities

MACC Guiding Principles

- emphasizes that learning is a lifelong process
- requires responsible attitudes and behaviors on the part of students, parents, staff and the community
- provides safe and caring learning environments that recognizes and responds to the range of characteristics of gifted learners