

When students enter through the red doors at Kehrs Mill, one of nineteen elementary schools in the Rockwood School District in Chesterfield, Missouri, they are transformed into “Knights of Honor and Excellence.” This motto galvanizes our entire school community to focus on student performance, the pinnacle of our mission. “Our mission at Kehrs Mill Elementary School, with the commitment of staff, families, and community, is to ensure each student reaches his or her potential in a changing world by achieving academic success, accepting responsibility, developing self-esteem and a love for learning.”

Our 633 kindergarten through fifth grade students come from diverse cultural backgrounds. The student population is generally middle class, with nine percent of students receiving free/reduced meals. Thirty-eight students living in the city of St. Louis attend Kehrs Mill as part of the Voluntary Inter-district Choice Corporation.

Our positive school wide expectations support modeling and teaching of core ethical values to foster good citizenship. We embed character education in all disciplines. Buddy Activities pair older and younger classes, developing positive relationships as they collaborate on academic projects. Our students solve problems and become active participants in their education through the forum of daily Class Meetings. Homeside Activities, educational projects completed with students’ families, are shared and displayed on school bulletin boards, increasing pro-social bonding. Complementing the Missouri Model Guidance lessons, counselors instruct students to practice optimism and resiliency. Counselor led workshops on Resiliency and Optimism offer learning opportunities for parents.

A tradition of active parent involvement, since the groundbreaking ceremony of our building twenty years ago, augments the education of our students. Parents support our efforts by reinforcing skills at home and tutoring in classrooms. Local community resources are utilized through our Partners in Education Program and OASIS volunteers.

Unique to Kehrs Mill is our high quality master level staff, 92% with advanced degrees. Staff accepts personal responsibility to ensure mastery of the Missouri Show-Me Standards. Recognizing the importance of health and physical fitness, Kehrs Mill provides daily physical education. Creativity flourishes as students demonstrate their talents in art shows and musical events.

Student work is proudly displayed throughout the building. Within every classroom is state-of-the-art technology, including interactive Smartboards and computers. Every day is library day for students at Kehrs Mill, with the library being the heart of our school.

“U-Knighted We Learn,” this year’s patriotic theme, is illustrated by the American flag created with handprints of students, staff, and parents. This symbolizes our greatest strength, our communities’ shared purpose, and commitment to ensure that each student reaches his or her highest potential.