Quick Facts . . .

Model offers a comprehensive Pre-K through 12th grade quality education.

Attention is focused on the development of the total academic and extracurricular student experience.

Enrollment is about 700 students for all grade levels supported by 80 permanent faculty and staff.

Model is consistently in the top 10 schools ranked in Kentucky for ACT scores and among the best schools in state testing.

Over 98% of graduating seniors go on to attend college.

An environment that celebrates and respects diversity of backgrounds, academic levels and ethnicities in the student population is valued.

Students applying to Model are placed on a waiting list by grade level, accepting up to 60 students on a “fair-come, first-served” basis. Application requests can be made through the Model web page.

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Model Laboratory School

Model Laboratory School is a truly unique institution in today’s educational world. Established over 100 years ago Model is one of only a handful of “laboratory” schools in the entire United States and the sole one in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Laboratory schools are a model of experiential education based on the original laboratory school managed by John Dewey at the University of Chicago. They can be known by various names, but they are always affiliated with a university or college.

The juxtaposition of the highly rated Eastern Kentucky University College of Education and Model Lab School exemplifies a partnership that has educated thousands of Central Kentucky students. An established faculty combines with the fresh vigor of EKU student teachers to showcase innovative teaching concepts for an educational experience that has been an area milestone for generations of well-educated students. Model Lab offers the exceptional opportunity for interaction among college faculty, Pre-K-12th grade faculty, and students of all ages. As you stop by any classroom, you may see a student teacher or practicum student refining skills, an undergraduate completing a co-op placement, or an EKU freshman getting his/her first introduction to the teaching profession.

While emphasis is heavily placed on the traditional academic basics, the humanities, arts and physical education are promoted to encourage Model graduates to be well rounded and grounded citizens of the world.

Academics

Paramount to the essence of Model Lab School is involved learning by every single Model student. This commitment to excellence for all students is evidenced by Model Laboratory School consistently graduating classes of students who score within the top ten schools in the state on both the ACT and the Kentucky state assessments. Exemplary education begins with Pre-K with a full day program based on the latest developmental research. The academic regime is noted for:

• Evidence based reading curriculum in primary grades utilizing a multisensory approach
• Supplemental computer-based learning programs in reading and math
• Spanish language classes beginning in Pre-K and culminating in college level classes for advanced students
• Classes on the EKU campus for high school students capturing dual credit for both high school and college level courses
• Substantial art, music, physical education, library/media, and guidance curriculums as special classes and electives for every grade level
• An inclusive approach to special education based on each student’s needs
• Special opportunities for gifted students in accelerated classes, business, the arts, leadership and the community
• Student exchange opportunities with Hong Kong and Japan, along with extended trips like Washington, D.C., Chicago, and New York.

Student Life

Model students participate in a variety of extracurricular activities. Involvement in clubs, sports, the arts and service are essential elements to developing enriched, versatile, and socially concerned students. These activities begin in elementary school, grow during the middle years, and culminate in high school. An extra-curricular activity is required of every student in high school, and 40 hours of service are required to graduate. Students are engaged in a number of exciting activities:

• Students are encouraged to try a variety of sports, clubs and service activities of their choice.
• Original dinner theatre plays are presented by elementary students while older students stage plays and musicals annually.
• Students raise thousands of dollars for those in need from student sponsored activities and participate in many community service projects.
• Academic teams battle for honors at district, regional and state competitions.
• Starting at age six, students may stay after school for violin, piano and guitar lessons. Music, band and chorus classes are a springboard for many musical opportunities.
• Environmental education is valued, and students participate in organic gardening and recycling activities.
• Beyond the many opportunities offered by Model, students and their families may take advantage of a vast array of free cultural and educational events at Eastern Kentucky University and ‘arts-rich’ Madison County and Lexington.

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