Pioneer School of the Arts

13255 W McMillan Rd.
Boise, ID 83713
Phone - (208) 855-4100
Fax - (208) 855-4109
Principal - David Jakious
www.meridischools.org/pioneer

Preventing Today’s Students for Tomorrow’s Challenges

- **Positive Environment:** Pioneer is a K-5 Magnet Arts Program that strives to foster a safe, supportive, and intellectually stimulating learning environment.
- **Learning for All:** Pioneer’s staff effectively responds to the needs of all learners by differentiating instruction, integrating visual and performing arts, and instilling a lifelong love of learning.
- **Innovative Instruction:** A synthesis of traditional core instruction and innovative arts integration supports the intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and artistic development of the “whole child.”

Proud to be a 4-Star School

“Even though I live next to another school and it takes 30 minutes to get here, we keep coming because the teachers make you feel like you can do anything.”

- Ellie B.

Enrollment Information

- **Enrollment:** There are no special prerequisites or criteria for enrollment. Enrollment is by application and lottery. Preference will be given in the following order:
  - Siblings of students currently enrolled
  - Students within the primary attendance area
  - Students within the Meridian School District
  - Siblings of current out-of-district students
  - Out-of-District Transfers

Note: Once a student is admitted, they are guaranteed enrollment through 5th grade as long as they remain in the district boundaries.

- **Attendance Area:** Families from any school in the district may apply, although those within our primary attendance area (generally Summerwind, Discovery, Joplin, Frontier, Gateway, and a portion of Andrus and Ustick boundaries) will be given preference. See website for a specific map. Other spaces will be filled as available.

- **Waiting List:** Students not chosen in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list in order of application date. Many students are accepted from the list each year.

- **Transportation:** Bus transportation is provided for students residing in the primary attendance area, but outside of our walk zone. Families that live outside the primary attendance area are responsible for their own transportation.

2014-15 APPLICATION PROCESS

- Online applications available on our website. A computer is available at Pioneer if you do not have web access.
- Applications must be submitted by January 24th.
- The lottery will take place at the District Service Center on February 4th at 9:00am. Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend.
- Parents will be notified of acceptance or placement on a waiting list by February 11.
- If accepted, parents must notify Pioneer of their intent to enroll by February 21. If no notification is received, the spot will be offered to a family on the waiting list.
Why attend a ‘School of Choice’?

The Meridian School District is committed to offering families educational choices. A School of Choice provides your child with the opportunity to master content standards through an innovative curriculum based on a specific area of interest, matching or complementing his/her learning style. In 2005, Pioneer School of the Arts became the second of four elementary arts schools currently serving the district.

What is Pioneer’s Curriculum?

Students at Pioneer are exposed to a rigorous curriculum using the State and District Content Area Standards. Teachers deliver this curriculum through an interdisciplinary approach, integrating arts across all subject areas whenever possible. Character development is infused throughout a student’s time at Pioneer as we focus on the development of a well rounded child.

Why Focus on the Arts?

Educational research demonstrates that a focus on the arts helps students become better readers and problem solvers, especially when arts are integrated as part of the school’s daily curriculum. Through an arts infused curriculum, Pioneer students learn to utilize higher-order thinking skills such as critical thinking, analyzing, and decision-making.

Teachers at Pioneer creatively address state and district standards by utilizing visual and performing arts activities in the classroom. These experiences provide a means for students to construct their own knowledge and a deeper understanding of important concepts.

Skillfully integrated arts-based activities (singing, dancing, painting, sculpting, drawing, playing music, and more) enhance student learning and help students acquire basic developmental skills.

Sample of Pioneer’s Many Programs:

- Weekly Art and Music Instruction
- Composition and Performing Arts Lab
- Classroom and Grade-Level Performances
- Before-School and After-School Activities (ex. Chess Team, Basketball, YMCA, Scouts, Tennis)
- Caring Kids Community Service Group
- Puma-thon Lunchtime Fitness Group
- Walk-to-School Day and Red Ribbon Week
- Exciting Family Nights Throughout the Year

“Pioneer at Glance”

School:
• Modified Calendar (see website for dates)
• Response to Intervention (Specific focus on individual student progress)
• Learning Lab (Supports for students in need of specialized instruction)
• Broad Range of Specials Classes - Art, Music (General Music, Musical Keyboarding, Band, Orchestra, and Choir), Physical Education, Computer Lab, and Library
• Active parent volunteerism
• Gifted and Talented Program
• Projectors, document cameras, and computers in all classrooms, and fully equipped computer lab
• Research-based reading, writing, and math instruction/interventions, including Waterford Early Reading

Staff:
• Dedicated and knowledgeable, with a broad range of educational endorsement areas
• Highly trained with over 50% of our teachers holding a Masters Degree
• Certified Visual Arts and Music Specialists
• Regular collaboration focused on instruction and student learning

Find us Online: www.meridianschools.org/pioneer - www.facebook.com/pioneerpumas

“My favorite thing about Pioneer is being given the ability to express myself.” - Alex D.

Why Focus on the Arts?

Educational research demonstrates that a focus on the arts helps students become better readers and problem solvers, especially when arts are integrated as part of the school’s daily curriculum. Through an arts infused curriculum, Pioneer students learn to utilize higher-order thinking skills such as critical thinking, analyzing, and decision-making.

Teachers at Pioneer creatively address state and district standards by utilizing visual and performing arts activities in the classroom. These experiences provide a means for students to construct their own knowledge and a deeper understanding of important concepts.

Skillfully integrated arts-based activities (singing, dancing, painting, sculpting, drawing, playing music, and more) enhance student learning and help students acquire basic developmental skills.

Sample of Pioneer’s Many Programs:

- Weekly Art and Music Instruction
- Composition and Performing Arts Lab
- Classroom and Grade-Level Performances
- Before-School and After-School Activities (ex. Chess Team, Basketball, YMCA, Scouts, Tennis)
- Caring Kids Community Service Group
- Puma-thon Lunchtime Fitness Group
- Walk-to-School Day and Red Ribbon Week
- Exciting Family Nights Throughout the Year

“We initially selected Pioneer for its art emphasis in hopes of fully engaging our creative eldest child. What we found was a highly involved community of parents and exceptionally dedicated teachers and staff. Our children have thrived at Pioneer!”

- Anne M.