

**Vision:**

Through the collaborative efforts of staff, teachers, administrators, parents, and community partners, McKinley empowers students to flourish while providing socio-emotional support with diverse curricular and extracurricular programs, inclusive of the arts, sports, and technology that encompass the "McKinley Experience." Students are immersed in rigorous instruction that provides opportunities for exploration, investigation, problem-solving, critical thinking, and self-discovery all while striving for academic excellence, social maturity, and physical and mental fitness. We embrace the challenges of middle school and come together as a community to be "The Pride of Bay Ridge."

Mission:

We are driven by our shared goal to explore, develop, and celebrate our individuality within our McKinley community. Our founding principle recognizes that all McKinleyans, both students and staff, can discover, achieve, and thrive. Our mission is to manifest a learning environment that provides access to opportunity for all students. Here we work to open the doors, knock down the barriers and give everyone what they need to reach their max *potential*. Through carefully curated programs and initiatives McKinley is making the steps to provide a learning community that is guided by cultural responsibility, equity and social emotional academic awareness. Within our teacher designed curricular units, we seek to embed the rigorous instruction needed to support all learners with the lens of bias, perspective, historical relevance, innovation and culture. The process of adapting curriculum and creating educational opportunities is guided by data driven inquiry and research. In order to bring the McKinley vision to fruition we strive to be ever changing and evolving with the world around us.

Instructional Focus:

McKinley's instructional focus bridges social-emotional and culturally responsive education to build advanced literacy skills across content areas. The inclusion of voice and choice are embraced through diversified texts, and class discussions are driven through students' perspective and cultural experiences. Moreover, students' vocabulary acquisition is strengthened and developed through reading, writing, and speaking skills, which ultimately foster abstract thinking and learning. Our focus manifests in classroom instruction, which emphasizes opportunities for students to engage in rigorous curricula while exploring critical thinking and individuality.