



# Crossroads Middle School

## *Academy for Innovative Learning*

### A School-Wide Commitment to Innovation

At Crossroads Middle School, innovation is woven into the learning experience for all students. Through a school-wide approach grounded in **Design Thinking**, students learn to identify challenges, generate ideas, collaborate with others, and develop creative solutions to real-world problems. Across all content areas, students engage in inquiry, critical thinking, and hands-on learning experiences that encourage curiosity and innovation.

The Academy for Inquiry & Innovation (AI<sup>2</sup>) builds upon this foundation by providing a specialized magnet pathway that offers integrated coursework, expanded STEM opportunities, makerspace experiences, and advanced studies in computer science, engineering, and emerging technologies.

## Crossroads Middle School Magnet Program

### School-wide Approach

#### INNOVATION THROUGH DESIGN THINKING



##### DESIGN THINKING MODEL ACROSS CURRICULUM

Utilizing a structured Design Thinking Model in all content areas for problem-solving.



##### NEW DESIGN STUDIO

A dedicated space for students to research, design, and innovate with cutting-edge tools.



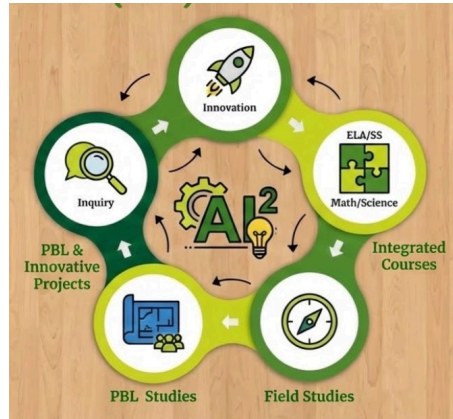
##### INNOVATIVE ELECTIVES

Unique courses in computer science and engineering.





# Crossroads Middle School Academy for Inquiry & Innovation (AI<sup>2</sup>)



**Launching in 2026–2027 with 6th Grade  
And  
Expanding to 7th and 8th Grade Each Year**

**Academy for Inquiry & Innovation (AI<sup>2</sup>)** at Crossroads Middle School is designed for students who are curious, creative, and eager to solve real-world problems. Through inquiry-driven learning, design thinking, and meaningful collaboration, students develop the critical thinking skills needed for success in college, careers, and life. Our vision is to foster a culture of innovation where students learn to ask questions, explore ideas, design solutions, and redefine what is possible.

## **What Makes AI<sup>2</sup> Unique?**

The Academy for Inquiry & Innovation provides students with innovative learning experiences that connect academic content to authentic challenges and future career pathways.

## **Program Highlights**

- Integrated courses in **ELA/Social Studies** and **Math/Science** in **6th grade**
- Dedicated **I-Inquire** time focused on project-based learning and innovation
- New **Design Lab** where students research, design, create, and test solutions
- Specialized electives in **Computer Science, Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, and Design Thinking**



## Specialized Learning Opportunities

Students in the Academy for Inquiry & Innovation may participate in experiences such as:

### Innovation & Technology Electives

- Introduction to Coding & Computer Science
- Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals
- App Development & Design Thinking
- PLTW Flight & Space
- PLTW Energy & Environment
- PLTW Computer Science for Innovators & Makers

### Our Mission

The Academy for Inquiry & Innovation engages students in inquiry-driven learning that builds collaboration, critical thinking, and a strong college-going culture—preparing them to become innovative problem-solvers ready for college, career, and life.

### Program Information

**Grades Served:** Beginning with Grade 6 in 2026–2027 and expanding through Grade 8

**Program Capacity:** Approximately 50 students per grade level