

Mission:

Opal School strengthens education by provoking fresh ideas concerning environments where creativity, curiosity and the wonder of learning thrive.

Opal School is an equal opportunity organization that does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, marital status, national origin, or mental or physical disability.

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Welcome to Opal School



*a public charter school of
Portland Public Schools
and a program of
Portland Children's Museum*

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The child has a hundred languages, a hundred hands, a hundred thoughts, a hundred ways of thinking, of playing, of speaking ... and a hundred, hundred more.

—Loris Malaguzzi

Why Opal School?

Established & Connected:

Thriving since 2001 as a program of the Portland Children's Museum

Nimble & Intimate:

88 students in kindergarten through grade five

A Culture of Playful Inquiry:

Inspired by the schools of Reggio Emilia

For more information visit
opalschool.org

Interested in enrolling?

Please call 503-471-9917

for information.

Distinctive Educational Experience

Opal School

- Holds a powerful image of ALL children as intelligent, creative and competent with gifts and abilities that the world needs.
- Values differences and respects all families as collaborators who contribute distinctive experiences and wisdom.
- Creates learning communities of children, families and staff who organize their work by listening to each other.
- Employs the arts as languages to inspire creativity, imagination and communication.
- Pays attention to the natural learning strategies children use to make sense of the world around them.
- Serves as a learning laboratory for the professional development of thousands of educators from around the globe.



What is a charter school?

Charter schools are public schools that are intended to provide innovative programs with specific educational philosophies and/or delivery models that offer additional options for students and families within the public school system. Charter schools are 501(c)3 organizations that enter into a contract with Portland Public Schools for sponsorship and maintain a high level of autonomy in exchange for increased accountability. Charter schools are governed by Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 338.

What is the relationship between charter schools and PPS?

PPS is responsible for oversight and monitoring of all charter schools sponsored by the district. PPS collects required annual deliverables, monitors financial stability and student performance, and ensures that the charter school is compliant with law and the contract.

How does a student enroll in a charter school?

Charter school enrollment must be fair and equitable, and may be limited only by the age of the student, the grade of the student, and the space available. If the charter school receives more applications than it has space available in a particular grade/class, then it must conduct an equitable lottery to deter-