

"Our daughter developed a genuine interest in topics that were only a distraction before.

This would not have happened without your experience, foresight, and dedication."

—8th grade parent



Santa Fe Girls' School is a private middle school for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls.

"So many of my outstanding female students at Santa Fe High attended the Girls' School. These young women were not sheltered at your school. In fact, they seem to be better at adjusting to the large, diverse campus than others."

—Teacher, Santa Fe High



Educating 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls from all cultural and economic backgrounds with an affordable high school preparatory curriculum



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HISTORY & MISSION

Founded in 1998, Santa Fe Girls' School opened in response to the community's need for a small and affordable academic setting where adolescent girls from a variety of economic and cultural backgrounds could thrive in a single-gender environment.

The school cultivates emotional growth and intellectual strength in girls, preparing them for the demands of high school, college, and young adulthood.

"I never question the fact that I can ask and talk to my teachers about anything." —7th grade student

CURRICULUM

Santa Fe Girls' School's curriculum focuses on building critical thinking skills in mathematics, history, geography, language arts, environmental science, and Spanish.

The core academic program is complemented by our enrichment program, which includes music, dance, art, drama, poetry, fitness, volleyball, self-defense, and folk arts.

The school's seminar-style teaching encourages learning through active inquiry and debate, and the investigation of multiple perspectives. Students learn *how* to think, rather than *what* to think.

SUCCESS

Girls enter Santa Fe Girls' School with a range of academic abilities, and they graduate with a strong knowledge and skill base that allows them to think critically and communicate effectively.

SFGS eighth grade students:

- * consistently test in the top 16% of the nation's students
- * enter the high schools they choose with 11-12th grade equivalencies

More than 99% of SFGS graduates attend college.



SFGS is Unique

- * **Small** (capacity of 45 students; 15 in each grade)
- * **Single-gender** (girls discovering and developing their individual voices)
- * **Diverse** (35% of 2010-2011 school year students are non-anglo; 20% of students receive tuition assistance)
- * **Affordable** (financial aid available)
- * **Core academic staff to student ratio** (1:9)
- * **Socratic seminars** (encouraging creative, critical thinkers)
- * **Rigorous high school preparatory curriculum** (enriched by cross-grade fine arts program)
- * **Field-based environmental science** (on the Santa Fe River)

Why an all-girls middle school?

Adolescent girls can feel uncomfortable competing with and outperforming boys. They often fall behind boys in mathematics, science and applied arts, and technology, and may continue to lose academic confidence. Not at Santa Fe Girls' School.



Girls at SFGS experience:

- * fewer distractions
- * a more productive learning environment
- * emotional safety to explore ideas and build skills for success in high school
- * a greater opportunity to develop personal strength and exercise self-advocacy

"The years I spent at SFGS were the best educational experiences of my life. I was supported to learn about myself and learned to love me for who I am. The school has had a lasting impression and now I reach for my goals and dreams, not those of others."—Class of 2001 alumna

What type of girl thrives at Santa Fe Girls' School?

A girl who wants:

- * to learn and is curious and engaged
- * a small, all-girls' setting
- * to be visible in her school community
- * to enter high school with strong skills and confidence

Admissions criteria at SFGS prioritize a girl's desire to learn over prior academic achievement. Santa Fe Girls' School provides a diverse school community.