



PARKMEAD ACTIVE LEARNING SCHOOL (PALS)

INSTILLING A LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING

Experiencial Learning. Teamwork. Cooperation. Perseverance. Risk-taking. Self-reliance. Self-paced learning. Peer support.

What Is PALS?

- A unique, alternative public elementary school program with over **30 years of proven success**.
- **Dynamic, experiential, child-centered education** offered in multi-age group classrooms.
- A loving, welcoming community that thrives on active parent involvement.

Why PALS?

Unlike traditional schools, PALS offers our students **unique educational, social, and cultural experiences** such as:



Multi-Age Classrooms (K/1, 2/3, 4/5) & Team Teaching

By pairing our students into multi-age classrooms, each child stays with the same teacher for two years which allows for **educational continuity and self-paced learning**. Students thrive from **peer modeling and peer-based learning** in a hands-on learning environment. By using a team approach to teaching, we can offer joint curriculum not only within the level, but also in program-wide cross-age activities.



Family Participation and Involvement

PALS **thrives on parents as active participants in their children's education**. We encourage 60 volunteer hours per year which can be met in the classroom, on committees, or behind the scenes at home. Active parents add to a strong sense of community and shared commitment to the program goals.



Cultural, Social and Personal Development

PALS recognizes that learning and development goes beyond "academics." For this reason our students participate in:

- Character and confidence building through **theatre and drama** sessions
- Appreciation and awareness of other cultures through our **MAGIC program** which allows students to "travel" each fall to 6 different countries to experience the foods, language, games and history of those countries. By 5th grade, each child will have visited 36 countries.
- **International Dance** taught by an outside dance instructor who incorporates cultural learning with physical activity.
- **Extraordinary field trips** that compliment classroom curriculum and make subjects come to life