



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Education has an immense impact on the human society. One can safely assume that a person is not in the proper sense till he is educated. It trains the human mind to think and take the right decision. A recognized system of education helps all aspects involved to function effectively.

SJAS instruction is based on the American system that aligns curriculum with the Common Core Standards in English, Language Arts, Mathematics and Social Studies. Life Science, Biology, and Chemistry are aligned with the national Academy.

Our focus is not memorization but understanding, enriching the ability to apply all information within our society, life, acquaintances, and outlining the future ahead. Most textbooks in use are published by McGraw Hill, Harcourt, and Holt Achieve. Framework of all subjects is regularly updated by teachers, supervisors, and heads of departments who focus on effective learning, prompt understanding and flexible application of the curriculum.

SJAS GRADING & ASSESSMENT POLICY

Assessment is used to find out what students already know, understand and can do; it helps students improve their learning and lets students, their parents and teachers know how much they have learned within a given period of time. Assessment and teaching are inseparable as assessment informs planning for the purpose of teaching and learning.

Summative assessment (assessment of learning)

Is aimed at determining a student's achievement level, generally at the end of a course of study or unit of work. It tells us what students know and can do, provides evidence of student progress and demonstrates whether they have achieved the intended learning outcomes. Teachers prepare the material of these tests from academic assessment books. Questions of term exams must include 80% from the recent material taught and 20% from different material taught since the beginning of the term.

Formative assessment (assessment for learning)

Refers to assessment tasks that provide information to be used as feedback to modify teaching and learning. It enhances learning by giving specific and timely feedback, keeping students focused on their progress, even in the face of occasional setbacks. Critically, it is formative assessment that has the greatest impact on student learning and achievement. Teachers are well-trained on different types of formative assessment during the summer professional development program and the departmental ongoing meetings.

Grading System:

Term	Q1	Formative Assessment (FA)	Q2	Formative Assessment (FA)	Term Exam (TE)	Formative Assessment (FA)	Term Project (Project + Presentation)	Total
1	25	5	25	5	25	5	10 (5+5)	100
2	25	5	25	5	25	5	10 (5+5)	100
3	25	5	25	5	25	5	10 (5+5)	100
4	25	5	25	5	25	5	10 (5+5)	100
End-of-year Report Card								400/4

Presentations have to follow the PVLEGS system that has been recently implemented in all subjects and following the same rubric as illustrated and explained in the Professional Development sessions early August.

New system of group seating

SJAS implements a new system as of this academic year 2016/2017, concerning the arrangement of students' seating in the class. Students are not sitting in rows any more, as they are divided to be sitting in 5 groups, of 5 students each, within classrooms of Grades 1 till 7. Students are arranged within groups in accordance with the MAP Language Arts RIT Range scores.

Within this new system of group seating, students' learning are shifted to be mainly based on collaboration of students within groups to discover, build, and motivate their personal skills

and knowledge, in accordance with the new SJAS Vision this year. The newly implemented system shifts the whole learning instruction from being teacher-centered classes to becoming a student-centered learning environment.

Within few months, all students will sit for the Measure of Academic Progress Standardized Test (MAP), and according to their Language Art RIT Range scores all groups will be rearranged, for each student to sit in his suitable academic level for further follow up, progress, and enhancement. Re-arrangement of seating maps according to new scores guarantees the continuous shift of all students among different groups along the year.

