



Bertschi School

Pre-Kindergarten to 5th Grade

“At Bertschi I learned
how to love learning.”

Jessica, class of 1979



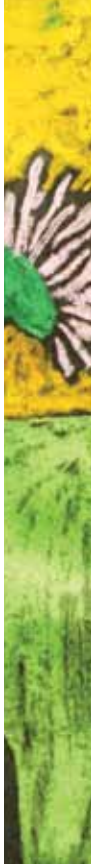
We are Bertschi School,

an independent elementary school committed to providing children a balanced education that nurtures their intellect, imagination and character through an environment that is compassionate and inspiring.

While here, our students grow in their enthusiasm for learning. They gain independence, confidence and competence with each year. Upon graduation, they are self-assured and skilled in their work, broad-minded in their thinking and prepared both academically and socially for the challenges of secondary education.

With the support of an active community of educators and families, children pursue an integrated, innovative curriculum. Core academics are linked with the arts, science and technology as well as social and environmental responsibility.

Here at Bertschi School, children embark on a life-long adventure in learning.



Not just a school, a community

Bertschi Highlights

1975

Bertschi School is founded in the basement of Lowell Elementary School on Capitol Hill and moves to its present location on 10th Avenue a year later.

1985

A major revision of the Curriculum Guide is completed, integrating all disciplines—arts, science, PE, library and core academic subjects—for grades PreK through 5.

1991

Bertschi's Board of Trustees approves the first strategic plan, setting a clear direction for Bertschi's future as a premier elementary school.

2007

The Bertschi Center, a LEED-certified building, opens with classrooms for music and visual arts, and a gym for PE and community gatherings.



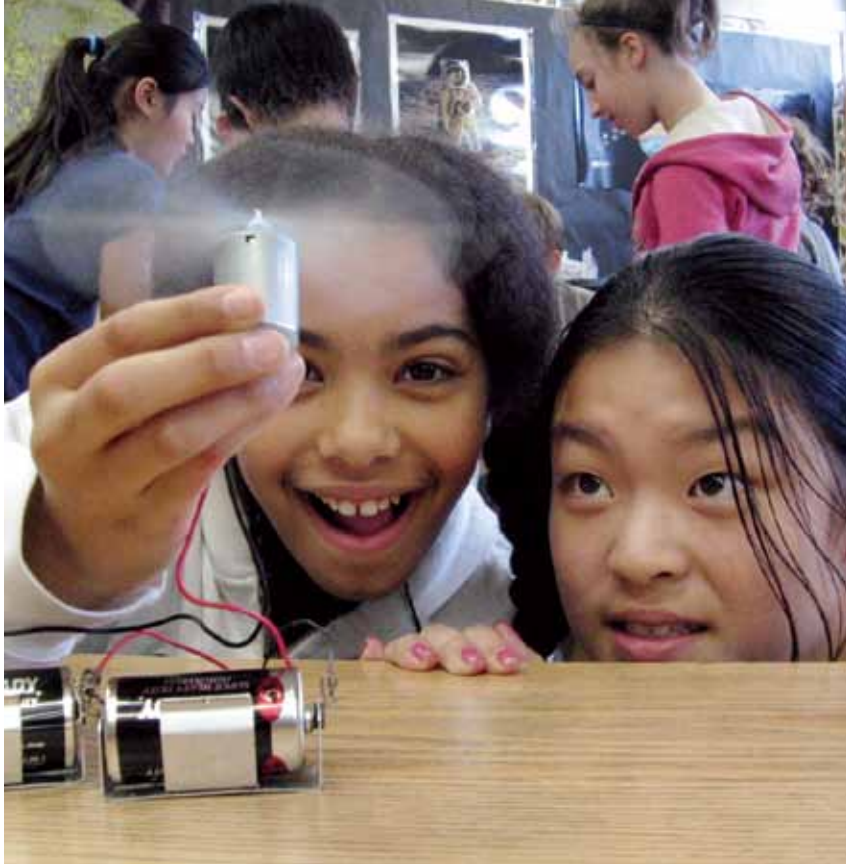
Our school was founded in 1975 by Brigitte Bertschi with the vision of a safe and inclusive environment where children discover the joys and challenges of learning.

For over 30 years, we have offered an education that successfully intertwines the intellectual, emotional and social development of a child. We achieve this balance by weaving together discovery and challenge, individual attention and community experience, artistic expression and scientific inquiry, enthusiastic play and quiet reflection.

Starting with one building in 1976, and acquiring adjacent buildings over time, the school now spans an entire block.

Our inviting and inspiring campus has become a peaceful urban oasis. The campus features the Bertschi Center, which affords spacious, light-filled spaces for art, music and physical education activities, as well as a hands-on experience of environmentally sustainable living.

At Bertschi School, students learn to be compassionate, confident and creative individuals who are able and eager to contribute meaningfully to their communities.



Dedicated to a balanced education

The Bertschi School integrates all aspects of a child's development in an environment that is safe, inclusive and socially responsible. At Bertschi, children discover and explore their unique gifts and are encouraged to bring these gifts into the world.

Our curriculum is academically challenging, interdisciplinary and fun. The foundation of our creative and engaging program is built on the mastery of essential academic skills. The Bertschi faculty works collaboratively to develop insightful and stimulating learning experiences. Projects focus on generating ideas, skills and solutions



across all disciplines so children can explore the dimensions of any given topic from many perspectives. This approach inspires moments of discovery as children make connections and learn to solve problems with invention and creativity.

Bertschi teachers are passionate and inspired, encouraging children to take risks, guiding them through obstacles and championing their individual achievements. Teachers encourage students to think independently while working collaboratively within a supportive classroom. Children benefit from this spirit of cooperation and the attention they receive within small classes. Families benefit from becoming an integral part of a community that is open and welcoming.

Our school is brimming with energy and alive with imagination as children learn to be confident, creative and compassionate individuals ready for middle school and beyond.

Bertschi Highlights

Fifth-graders write, produce and perform a full-length show in a professional theater with lighting, sound and choreographed dance.

Kindergartners take a Metro bus to spend the day exploring the International District in conjunction with their study of Chinese culture.

Students delve into robotics and learn sequential thinking and persistence to program the machines they have constructed.

Members of the Student Council lead monthly All School Meetings, featuring student presentations and performances.



Cultivating creativity, confidence and compassion

Members of the Bertschi community truly practice what they teach—every day. Students are educated to know who they are, who their fellow students are and the impact and influence they have on their surroundings. These practices are built upon three interdependent values: creativity, confidence and compassion.

All individuals in the Bertschi community are encouraged to think, act and express themselves creatively. The curriculum is infused with projects—from science to art, math to drama—that promote creative and analytical thinking, as well as self-expression.

Staff, teachers, parents and students work together to establish an environment that is inclusive, supportive and respectful so that children feel secure. School-wide behavioral expectations are clearly modeled, supported and celebrated through compliment cards and class trophies. We foster the empathy



and tolerance needed to help children resolve conflict and develop tools for problem solving.

Bertschi School teaches children social and environmental practices that will sustain them for a lifetime as thoughtful members of the global community. We encourage environmental responsibility with programs like Waste-Free Wednesday which encourages parents and students to create waste-free lunches. We are dedicated to sustaining a school culture that is considerate and compassionate.

At Bertschi, children experience—with confidence—the joyful effects of their own contributions to the community as they watch their classmates flourish, their parents beam and their teachers proudly say “I knew you could do it!”

Bertschi Highlights

Independent research projects, starting as early as first grade, give students the opportunities to probe deeper into their areas of interest.

The Spring Arts Showcase celebrates the arts at Bertschi—every wall, table and shelf displays student art and each grade performs on the school stage.

All students participate in the Student Council and learn that responsible actions foster self-confidence.

The Buddy-Program partners PreK-2 children with upper-class buddies, creating year-long mentoring relationships and leadership across grades.

The Bertschi Center provides unique opportunities for teaching students about the importance of sustainable practices including a rainwater recapture system, visible solar panels and accompanying energy meters.



Engaging in a global community

Bertschi's longstanding commitment to global education is rooted in the belief that children benefit from an environment where diversity is embraced on all levels. Diverse cultures are explored through year-long, project-based studies investigating origins of families, aspects of community, history and celebrations. Children explore the wider community on field trips that enrich and broaden their understanding of the world and encourage them to become active community members at Bertschi and beyond.

At Bertschi, children, educators and families embrace the principles of mutual respect, tolerance and compassion everyday. Children learn by example and through direct experience of the impact they have on their community, fostering positive self-esteem, security and reliance.

Bertschi students are prepared to actively engage in their future as life-long learners.

Our Mission

Bertschi School educates children to become compassionate, confident and creative learners in a global community.

Our Values

Our community values integrity, inclusiveness, respect and a commitment to sustainable practices.



**2227 Tenth Avenue East
Seattle, Washington 98102**

**Office 206.324.5476
Admission 206.324.2150
Fax 206.329.4806
Email admit@bertschi.org**

Visit us! www.bertschi.org

Bertschi School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation or disability.



2227 Tenth Avenue East
Seattle, Washington 98102

Office 206 324-5476
Admission 206 442-6855
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Application Checklist

To submit before the application deadline, January 12, 2012:

- Completed application form
- Application fee of \$100 (waived for financial aid applicants)

To complete your child's application:

- Forward Teacher Evaluation form to current teacher
- Forward Request for Records form (grades 1-5) to current school
- Attend a School Tour (by appointment; required for all applicant families)
- Attend the Open House (recommended)
- Complete a financial aid application if needed

Financial Assistance Checklist

Attend the Financial Aid Information Night on January 4, 2012 from 7-8:30. (optional)

Submit financial data via the FAST web interface before the financial assistance application deadline, March 2, 2011:

- Parents' financial details, submitted online to FAST
- Copies of 2011 IRS form 1040 tax return and all associated schedules, submitted to FAST

For More Information

Our Admission Office and parent ambassadors are happy to answer any questions you might have.

Admission Timeline

School Tours begin October, 2011; scheduling begins early September

Bertschi School Open House Nov 10, 2011 7:00–8:30 pm

Application deadline Jan 12, 2012

Financial Assistance Application deadline February 2, 2012

Notification letters mailed March 15, 2012

Wait pool confirmation due Mar 23, 2012

New student contracts due Mar 26, 2012

Testing

Bertschi School does not require outside testing. Parents who have additional evaluative information are encouraged to share it with our admission team.

Age Limits

Applicants to pre-kindergarten must be 4 years old on or before September 1.

Applicants to kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 1. Applicants who are a year older than our chronological age groupings will be assessed with an age appropriate peer group.

Student Visits

Student visits are scheduled by the Admission office. Pre-k applicants visit in groups of 6-10 for about an hour on a Friday or Saturday morning. Kindergarten applicants visit in groups of 8-12 for about an hour on either Monday afternoon or Saturday morning. Grade 1 applicants visit in a group a about 90 minutes. Applicants to grades 2-5 visit individually for a Wednesday morning or afternoon in their current grade.

Parents of applicants to grades pre-k, k and 1 visit with the Head of School and the Director of Admission during their child's visit. Parents of applicants to grades 2-5 have a similar opportunity on the morning of their child's visit.

How Admission Decisions are Made

Bertschi's goal is to admit students who are most likely to benefit from the school's curriculum and program, and who, in turn, are best able to contribute positively to the life of the school. Our commitment to diversity and desire to maintain an inclusive community, which includes students and families of all ethnic, economic, religious and racial backgrounds, as well as those of varying physical ability and sexual orientation, is fundamental to Bertschi's philosophy and mission.

When reviewing an applicant's file we consider:

- ~ Language development
- ~ Math and reading readiness
- ~ Small and large motor development
- ~ Behavior and work traits
- ~ Current teacher's evaluation
- ~ Observations during the student's visit
- ~ Parents' understanding and support of Bertschi's mission

We also strive to achieve a gender balance, as well as a diversity of personalities, interests and learning styles.

Bertschi School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

Applying for grade _____ for the _____ school year

Last Name First Name Middle Preferred Name

Date of Birth Sex (M/F)

Have you applied to Bertschi School before?
 Yes No

Ethnic/Racial Background
(voluntary for reporting purposes)

Ethnicity (check one):

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (check all that apply):

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

Family Information

Parents ~ Do parents live in different households? Yes No If yes, please include Parent 2 household information

Name of Parent/Guardian 1

Name of Parent/Guardian 2

Home Address

Home Address

City State Zip

City State Zip

Home Phone

Home Phone

Mobile Phone

Mobile Phone

Occupation/Title

Occupation/Title

Employer

Employer

Work Phone

Work Phone

Preferred E-Mail

Preferred E-Mail

Siblings

Name Age Grade School

Name Age Grade School

Name Age Grade School

Applicant's Current School or Program

Name of School

Applicant's Current Grade

School Address

School Phone

School Fax

Teacher's Name

Teacher's E-Mail

Please share the following information with us:

- A current snapshot of your child engaged in an activity he or she enjoys.

On a separate sheet of paper, please briefly address the following questions:

1. In a few words, how would you describe your child?
2. What are the most important things you are looking for in a school for your child?
3. What attracts you to Bertschi School?
4. Why do you think Bertschi would be a good fit for your son or daughter?

Did you attend or do you have any relatives who attended Bertschi School?

Name

Relationship

Years Attended

Name

Relationship

Years Attended

Name

Relationship

Years Attended

This application must be accompanied by a \$100 check made payable to Bertschi School.
The fee is non-refundable, and is waived for Financial Assistance applicants.

- Check here if you would like to receive Financial Assistance information.

Signature

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Seattle/Eastside Independent Schools

Common Teacher Evaluation Form for Children Applying to Kindergarten

The schools listed below have agreed to use this Common Teacher Evaluation Form which is required for children applying to Kindergarten. All of the schools are either accredited by or pursuing accreditation through the Pacific Northwest Association of Independent Schools (PNAIS). Each of the schools shares a commitment to a strong academic curriculum in a supportive atmosphere, and all seek a student body representative of the diverse populations in the Seattle/Eastside area. In addition, most schools have need-based financial aid programs.

To the Parent/Guardian:

- ◆ Please check the schools below to which you are applying for Kindergarten.
- ◆ Put your child's name on the form and hand it to your child's teacher, along with stamped envelopes addressed to the schools' admission offices.
- ◆ Please be sure to provide the teacher with enough time to complete the form prior to school deadlines.

To the Teacher:

- ◆ Thank you in advance for helping us get to know this applicant. Please complete the attached form as accurately as possible. *Please note that the information you submit will be considered confidential, will not be shared with parents, and will not become part of the child's permanent school records.*
- ◆ If you wish, you may type the open-ended questions and attach them to the form.
- ◆ Make a copy of the completed form and mail or fax it directly to the school(s) that is/are checked on the list below.
- ◆ Retain the original for your files so that if you are contacted by another school you can simply make a copy and send it along.
- ◆ Additional copies of this form may be printed out from participating schools' web sites.

Please note: Any school receiving this form may, at the family's request, send it to the admission office of another participating school.

Participating Schools

<p>— The Bear Creek School 8905 208th Ave. NE Redmond, WA 98053</p>	<p>(p) 425-898-1720 (f) 425-898-1430 www.tbcs.org</p>	<p>— The Meridian School 4649 Sunnyside Ave. N. Seattle, WA 98103</p>	<p>(p) 206-632-7154 (f) 206-633-1864 www.meridianschool.edu</p>
<p>— Bertschi School 2227 10th Ave. East Seattle, WA 98102</p>	<p>(p) 206-324-5476 (f) 206-357-0160 www.bertschi.org</p>	<p>— Open Window School 6128 168th Place SE Bellevue, WA 98006</p>	<p>(p) 425-747-2911 (f) 425-562-4035 www.ows.org</p>
<p>— The Bush School 3400 E. Harrison St. Seattle, WA 98112</p>	<p>(p) 206-326-7736 (f) 206-860-3876 www.bush.edu</p>	<p>— The Perkins School 9005 Roosevelt Way NE Seattle, WA 98115</p>	<p>(p) 206-526-8217 (f) 206-525-6239 www.perkinsschool.com</p>
<p>— Epiphany School 3710 East Howell St. Seattle, WA 98122</p>	<p>(p) 206-323-9011 (f) 206-324-2127 www.epiphanyschool.org</p>	<p>— Seattle Country Day School 2619 4th Ave. N. Seattle, WA 98109</p>	<p>(p) 206-284-6220 (f) 206-283-4251 www.seattlecountryday.org</p>
<p>— Eton School 2701 Bellevue-Redmond Rd. Bellevue, WA 98008</p>	<p>(p) 425-881-4230 (f) 425-861-8011 www.etonsschool.com</p>	<p>— Seattle Jewish Community School 12351 8th Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98125</p>	<p>(p) 206-522-5212 (f) 206-525-9023 www.sjcs.net</p>
<p>— The Evergreen School 15201 Meridian Ave. N. Seattle, WA 98133</p>	<p>(p) 206-364-2650 (f) 206-365-1827 www.evergreenschool.org</p>	<p>— Soundview School 6515 196th St. SW Lynnwood, WA 98036</p>	<p>(p) 425-778-8572 (f) 425-640-9416 www.soundview.org</p>
<p>— French Amercian School of Puget Sound 3795 E. Mercer Way Mercer Island, WA 98040</p>	<p>(p) 206-275-3533 (f) 206-812-0231 www.fasps.org</p>	<p>— Spruce Street School 914 Virginia Street Seattle, WA 98101</p>	<p>(p) 206-621-9211 (f) 206-624-2832 www.sprucestreetschool.org</p>
<p>— Giddens School 620 – 20th Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98144</p>	<p>(p) 206-324-4847 (f) 206-322-0923 www.giddensschool.org</p>	<p>— Villa Academy 5001 NE 50th St. Seattle, WA 98105</p>	<p>(p) 206-527-9388 (f) 206-523-7131 www.thevilla.org</p>
<p>— The Jewish Day School of Metropolitan Seattle 15749 NE 4th St. Bellevue, WA 98008</p>	<p>(p) 425-460-0200 (f) 425-460-0201 www.jds.org</p>	<p>— Westside School 10015 28th Ave. SW Seattle, WA 98146</p>	<p>(p) 206-932-2511 (f) 206-935-2813 www.westsideschool.org</p>
<p>— The Little School 2812 116th Ave. NE Bellevue, WA 98004</p>	<p>(p) 425-827-8708 (f) 425-827-3814 www.thelittleschool.org</p>		

Seattle/Eastside Independent Schools Common Teacher Evaluation Form for Children Applying to Kindergarten

Applicant's Name: _____
 Current School/Daycare: _____ Teacher Name: _____
 School Address: _____
 Teacher/School Telephone Number: _____ Teacher E-mail address: _____
 Applicant Attends: _____ days per week, _____ hours per day

Teachers: Our schools greatly appreciate your helping the applicant by supplying the information requested. Please return the completed form directly to the school(s) requested. Information you submit will be considered confidential, will not be shared with parents, and will not become part of the child's permanent school records.

How long have you known this child and in what capacity?

What are the first few words that come to mind to describe this child?

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Area of Strength	Appropriate for Age	Progressing toward Age Appropriate	Area of Concern	Comments
Shows empathy toward peers					
Plays alone happily					
Cooperates at play					
Shares well without prompting					
Initiates play activities					
Demonstrates ability to lead					
Demonstrates ability to follow					
Is imaginative					
Uses materials purposefully					
Demonstrates self-control in class					
Demonstrates self-control on playground					
Responds positively to re-direction					
Exhibits sense of humor					
Seeks help when needed					
Respects property of others					
Exhibits courtesy and respect					
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT					
Small muscle control & development					
Large muscle control & development					
Speech & articulation					

How would you characterize this child's interactions with other students? With adults?

What, if anything, frustrates this child and how does he/she respond?

SKILL DEVELOPMENT	Area of Strength	Appropriate for Age	Progressing toward Age Appropriate	Area of Concern	Comments
Is attentive					
Listens in a group					
Contributes to group discussions					
Follows directions					
Works cooperatively					
Demonstrates ability to focus on one task					
Completes tasks independently					
Respects classroom routines					
Makes transitions easily					
Responds positively to constructive criticism					
Is curious					
Is willing to try new activities					
Grasps new concepts					
Is a self-starter					
Enjoys new challenges					
Exhibits problem-solving ability					
Expresses ideas well verbally					
Exhibits self-help skills (hand washing, bathroom skills, etc.)					

Please comment on this child's strengths.

Please describe any significant areas of concern.

Please comment on this child's academic skills.

Are the parents of this applicant supportive of their child's strengths and challenges? Have their expectations and perceptions of their child and the school been in alignment with yours and your school's? Please comment.

We would appreciate any additional information which you think would help our school make an informed decision.

If we need clarification, may we contact you by phone? YES NO Phone Number: _____

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____