

Grand Prize Art Winner

The Perfect School

by: Danna Vasquez-Cabrera



WITESOL Writing and Art Contest

Theme: The Perfect School

2016 Winners

Grand Prize Art:

1st Place: Danna Vasquez-Cabrera (Patty Henrichs)

K-2 Writing Contest:

1st Place: Stacey Velazquez (Kari Johnson)

2nd Place: Nathan Yang (Threse Powell)

3rd Place: Kevin Keodara (Threse Powell)

K-2 Art Contest:

1st Place: Ailyn Rodriguez Velazquez (Kari Johnson)

3-5 Writing Contest:

1st Place: Angelina Xiong (Threse Powell)

2nd Place: Allan Chang (Threse Powell)

3rd Place: Aimee Li (Nancy Schumacher)

3-5 Art Contest:

1st Place: Melanie Flores Arana (Kari Johnson)

6-8 Writing Contest:

1st Place: Sahra Ahmed (Oksana Kobzar-Schweiner)

2nd Place: Kaoxue Vang (Vickie Hang)

3rd Place: Mariangelys Morales-Ruiz (Threse Powell)

6-8 Art Contest:

1st Place: Mariangelys Morales-Ruiz (Threse Powell)

9-12 Writing Contest:

1st Place: Marco Lopez (Lori Menning)

2nd Place: Mai Ka Vang (Vickie Hang)

3rd Place: Aureliano Luna (Lori Menning)

9-12 Art Contest:

1st Place: Marco Lopez (Lori Menning)

Adult Writing Contest

1st Place: Fawaz Alshammari (Katie Vernezze)

2nd Place: Mashaal Al-Rasheed (Katie Vernezze)

3rd Place: Menawer Alotaibi (Katie Vernezze)

How to Make a Perfect School

by: Stacey Velazquez

I want to tell you how to make the perfect school. My perfect school will have a cafeteria so kids can eat. Also, there will be an art room so kids can paint and color. Another thing my perfect school will have is an ice cream shop so kids can have a treat. Also, there will be a gym so kids can run around and do exercises. Another thing is there will be a toy room so kids can play. Also, there will be a dog room so you will always have a friend. In my perfect school there will also be a candy store so kids can always have a treat. Moving on to the teachers they will always be beautiful. Also, the teachers will be nice so kids are always happy and good students. The students will learn math because it will help them when they are older. Also, they will learn more reading so they can get better. They will learn how to be healthy. The students will learn to be safe with things they use. They will also learn not to bully. These are all the important things that will be in the perfect school.

K-2 Writing: 2nd Place

My Good School

by: Nathan Yang

What is the perfect school? I think the perfect school will have a lot of kindness and a lot of teachers! My school is going to have a lot of original stuff and some bricks. Also, we need lights and music and lockers for big students. I want papers, computers, an office, and a lot of kids. They play fair and need to be good and responsible for my school and care for each other by helping and playing by the rules. We should have gym, art, music, library, lunch, and reading. Also, the teachers and kids should be great and do the right thing and be smart. I think this school is wonderful and I am excited to go inside.

K-2 Writing: 3rd Place

My Perfect School

by: Kevin Keodara

My perfect school is the best because I have lots of friends and it is like a community. I like other kids because they help me learn. People help me be calm and safe. Kids and teachers should be kind to others. My school should be a quiet and safe place. My school should be a good place and a super big place. We need backpacks, math, math tools, teachers, books, computers, pencils and erasers. I would feel kind of shy and nervous because I'm not used to meeting other students in that school. I'd have a lot of fun there.

The Perfect School

by: Ailyn Rodriguez Velazquez



Dream School

by: Angelina Xiong

Today was Autumn's 1st day of school. She wondered how it would look like. As she got done with breakfast, she ran to the bus stop. As soon as she got there, the bus with silver glitter exterior arrived. Autumn was surprised about the bus color. As she got in, kids were sitting down quietly and whispering. When Autumn got to school, the school didn't even look like a school. It looked like a castle! Once she got in, she found robots cleaning room to room and she thought to herself, "This school looks awesome!!!" Once Autumn got to her class, it was pretty quiet. This must be a dream come true, thought Autumn. She has wanted this class for years because she wanted the class to be more quiet so she could focus on her work. She was pretty excited to stay in school for the rest of this 7 hours of school. After they were done with recess, math, and science, they got ready to go to lunch. Once they arrived at the cafeteria, Autumn found many different cultural foods. It had Chinese, Hmong, Japanese, Mexican and many more.

Autumn asked for Chinese, Mexican, and Hmong food. "Would you like 1 scoop or 2 scoops?" one of the food servers asked. Autumn said 2 scoops because she needed her stomach to be full and happy. Autumn got done getting her food so she went to find a table to sit and eat. Autumn was about to take a bite until she heard this beeping noise. She looked everywhere in the cafeteria and she couldn't find that beeping noise anywhere. She asked students where that beeping noise was. They didn't answer. Until Autumn finally woke up and found out that it was only just a dream! All that fantasy surprised her and she turned off her alarm and got ready for school. She thought to herself, "If only that dream was true, I would be in the perfect school!"

3-5 Writing: 2nd Place

The Awesome School

by: Allan Chang

Allan is 12 years old and was looking for the perfect school but he couldn't find it anywhere. He found a coin that had a logo with a school but it wasn't just a school, it was THE PERFECT SCHOOL! When he touched the coin he went into the future. In the future there was a perfect school. It looked like a castle that was five stories tall. It had ten elevators and 25 classrooms. All fourth-sixth graders had their own laptop. There was an auditorium where they had talent shows, special events and concerts. There was also a cafeteria with Asian and Mexican cooks. There was also a swimming pool where there were swimming lessons. Teachers were super smart and made rules. For example, don't bring weapons to school. Don't yell or litter. Don't run in the halls, only in gym. These are just some of the rules. There are still more rules than this to keep kids safe and don't do bad things. Allan went into the perfect school and looked at the classrooms and saw cool things happening. For example, some six graders were building a robot. In a fifth grade classroom they were creating a flexible phone. In a fourth grade classroom they were making a hoverboard. All of a sudden Allan lost the coin. He immediately went back to the present. He told his parents but they did not believe him. He went back to his old school and found the coin. Allan went back to the future. He feels wonderful about the school because it is awesome. Allan stayed in the future until he finished college.

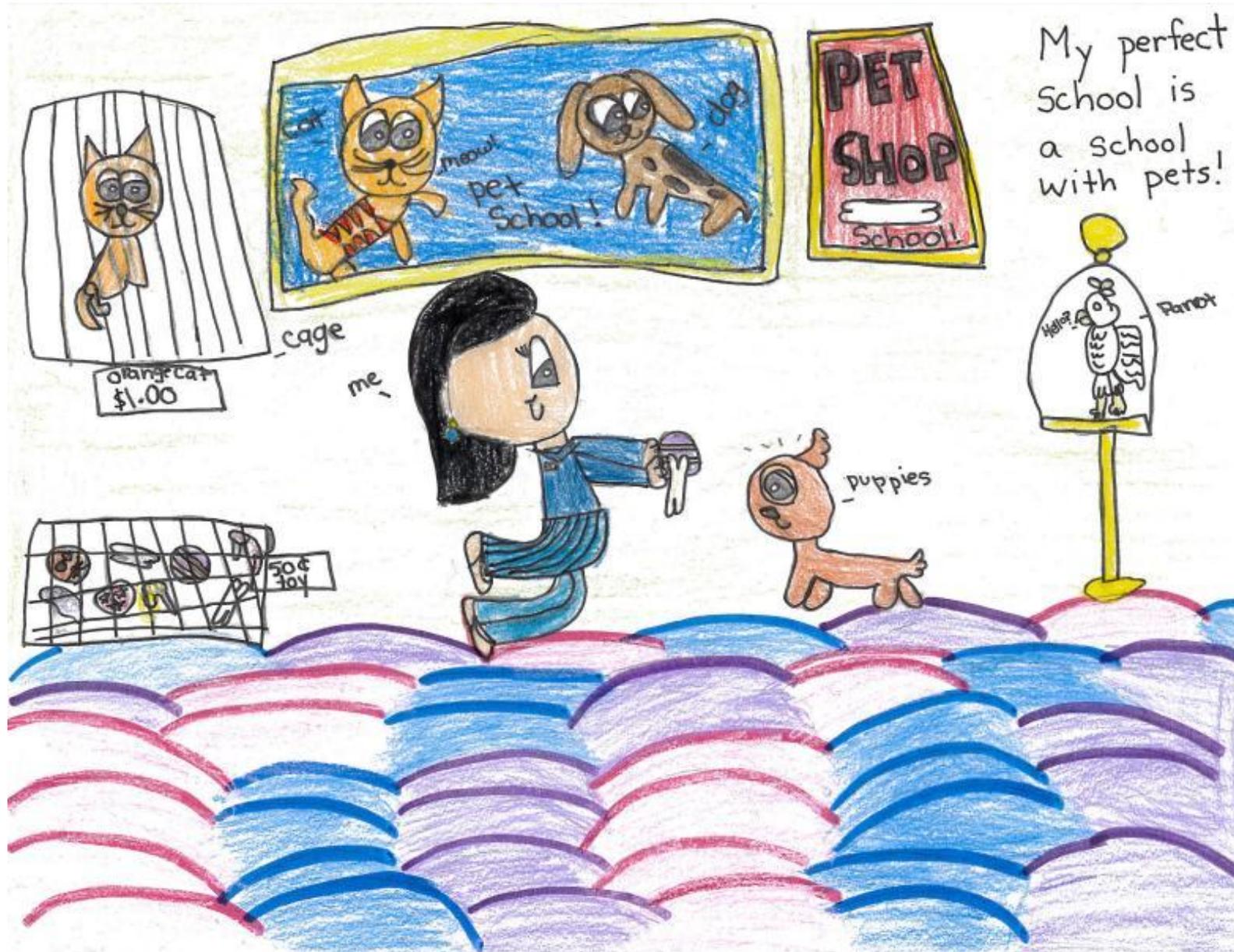
The Happy School

by Aimee Li

In my perfect school, there will be a skylight in our classroom. The shape will be a smiley face. I want a smiley face because it will remind students to be happy. In my perfect school, there will be a time machine in the northwest corner of my classroom. I want the time machine to say "Heal the sadness away!" I want it to say that because it will help students feel better. I want a time machine so if we forget something we can make the time go forward or back! Also when we have a super or a bad day, we can make the day go back to the past or fix the wrong or bad thing we did. In my perfect school, there are 3 rules in each classroom. In my classroom, they are: No bullying, No lying, and No being weird at all. It will make my school a better place. It will also make my classroom a happier place. Teachers will teach us about our moods, because when we have something bad we will know how to control it. We will feel like we master our mood, because we do! Our playground will look like a smiley face. In the left eye, there will be swings that change color by what you want. In the right eye, there will be a bright yellow seesaw that 6 people can fit on. In the mouth there will be a bright colored zip line attached to a changing-mood color monkey bars. The ears of the smiley face are two slides that have happy faces which can talk and say hello in different languages. In the back there is a ladder to climb to the top of the head. There is a trampoline and nets to protect us from falling. Every time we jump, it sings happy songs. There is a tube where we could climb the ladder even higher, then we go down another clear tube. It will take us around the whole playground. I hope you enjoy my perfect school.

Pet Shop School

by: Melanie Flores Arana



My perfect School is a school with pets!

6-8 Writing: 1st Place

My Haven School

by: Sahra Ahmed

Have you ever thought about a perfect school? Where everything that you ever wanted in life is there. Well, I have. Here is my perfect school which has everything. A perfect school takes into consideration the teaching and people who are responsible for that. There is no school without teaching. Schools are created to educate, to instruct and most importantly to present relate information that would be helpful in the future. A perfect school is a school that offers teaching that suits, satisfies the needs of students and offers something new. It is a school that has something new to learn every day. You can't kill someone with a gun without bullets, just like that, students can't learn without the perfect teacher. A perfect school has great teachers. Teachers are mirrors for students. People can observe that throughout the school year. Students spend more time with their teachers more than their parents. Because of that, it is crucial for teachers become mentors for their students. The teachers take into consideration about bullying. They do not tolerate bullying and help bullying to stop. A perfect school has respectful, responsible, and safe environment for students . It is a place where students feel safe. When they walk through the school door, they don't feel scared and are ready for the day. Students that work together, develop new ideas, feel comfortable to share these ideas with others. A perfect school also helps student stay on track. It helps them with their homework if they don't get it. They shouldn't give any late assignments or debits for poor choices because that will just scare the students and make them feel uninterested. Students feel stressed and pressured about he huge amount of homework they have. A school gives students technology that help them with their homework. A perfect school isn't something that students will feel bored to go to everyday. It also doesn't make them feel scared. I always feel bored throughout the day but in a perfect school, students shouldn't feel like that. For me, a perfect school is like a heaven. It has teachers who are helpful and students who are responsible, respectful and safe. It also motivates students to get something done and set goals for their future.

6-8 Writing: 2nd Place

The Beautiful School

by: Kaoxue Vang

Many students want their school to be the “Perfect School”, but they don’t really know what makes it perfect. There are many possible ways to create the perfect school. Maybe you can learn something that you can try to create your perfect school by reading how I would like to make my perfect school. First of all, a perfect school can’t survive without the best and kindest teachers and principal. A great principal must be a good leader and boss, so that everyone can follow. In addition, my perfect school should have funny teachers. The teachers must entertain students so they won’t be bored all the time in class. The teachers should give students clear instructions before doing work, and make sure the students understand what they’re doing. Furthermore teachers should find a perfect spot or place for student to learn. This will make students focus on their work better, so each student has their own kind of learning. Moreover, a school won’t be perfect if the students don’t come to school. The perfect school must include perfect students. All students should show up to school with a positive and happy attitude, also not being tardy to class all the times. Students have to make sure that all of their school supplies and assignments are ready to go the night before school, and always hand their homework on time. That will make their grades high looking and perfect. If students are absent from school, they should ask the teacher or their friends for any notes that they miss, this will make students be able to keep up with school and their classrooms. Overall, the perfect school should have excellent students, and the kindest and perfect teachers and principal. The excellent students must not be late to class, do their homework, and lastly always have a good and happy attitude when coming to school. The kindest teachers and principal should entertain students and the principal must be a great and wonderful boss. So the next time you’re wondering what makes a perfect school, think about the clues above.

6-8 Writing: 3rd Place

The Perfect School

by: Mariangelys Morales-Ruiz

To me the perfect school will be a school that will give me the education that I need. At school there should be lots of things for kids to do or work on together so they can help each other. I also want time for kids to work by themselves. In the perfect school we need books, pencils, coloring pencils, erasers, Math and Social Studies books, silent reading books, notebooks, papers, tissues, boards, markers, and pens. Every teacher and all 5th and 6th graders should have a computer. The teachers would need a computer because they have to plan the student homework, and students need them because they have to do writing, research, and homework. Some students play around with their computer playing games and they don't do homework. In the perfect school, students don't play around with their computer and they do their homework. In the perfect school, teachers and students should be nice to each other. The students have to listen to the teacher when the teacher is talking. The teachers have rules for the students and they have to follow those rules. Some students don't follow the rules. In the perfect school, students follow the rules. In the perfect school we have everything we need. The teachers and students get along together in the perfect school. All the students in the perfect school follow the rules. I think I would like to go to the perfect school because students are nice, and I think I'm going to learn new things.

The Perfect School

by: Mariangelys Morales-Ruiz



My Perfect School

by: Marco Lopez

I am a high school student, I am a teenager, I am bilingual, I am a seeker of knowledge. My perfect school would be formed of the things that interest me, and the things I enjoy to do. The idea of the “perfect” school will change depending on one’s perspective.

My perfect school might be different from someone else's perfect school. My perfect school is a school that challenges you, recognizes your strengths instead of your weaknesses, makes you you. When I do not feel challenged I lose interest in what ever I am doing. As one could imagine that is not good for school. I need to be shown new things, new ideas, new ways of doing things. I need things that challenge me. Whether it be in math, science, history, foreign language, physical ed, or whatever it may be, their has to be a challenge to make me work harder. Challenges make me what to accomplish them and learn things. My perfect school would have challenges that make me frustrated, but would not make me bored, to be interested in the subject. My perfect school would value my strengths. The school would set me in areas where I can show my strengths and use them. Many times schools only focus on “common” strengths, and not on individual strengths. My perfect school would allow and show students how to use their strengths in whatever way would help them to succeed in life. Also, the school would help you improve your weaknesses, and not just point them out. The school would show you what things you could do to improve them and tell you why it’s useful to do so. They would not point out your weaknesses and only your weaknesses. My perfect school would praise your strengths and improve weaknesses. The perfect school for me is a school who recognizes you. A school that takes time to make you better. A school where you do not feel like another student among the multitude. The perfect school is the school which best suites you. A school that has classes of things that you enjoy. My perfect school would value and respect me and my ideas. A school with teachers who care for their students and not the paycheck. My perfect school is a school who wants to shape me to be better. A school that challenges you, recognizes your strengths instead of your weaknesses, makes you you, is my perfect school. The perfect school for me school that helps you learn new things. A school that praises individual strengths and helps to improve weaknesses. A school that makes me me and wants me for who I am. This and more is what makes up my perfect school.

The Perfect School

by: Mai Ka Vang

The perfect school. More like the non-perfect school. Yes, I know this is crazy, but there isn't a school that's perfect. NO. I think that the perfect school would be if everyone enjoys coming to school, about 99.99% of the the students passes their classes, either with a C or B, and there isn't any drugs or major consequences. Well, there can be consequences. Like trying to get students to stop going on their phones, lunch menus, etc. I don't know. There's no way, never in a heavenly body, would there ever be a "perfect" school. Even when your school has music in every classroom, no homework, sleep time, etc. There are some major problems that make a non-perfect school. An idea that can make a non-perfect school to an almost perfect school...is if they have all kinds of BOOKS!! School libraries. You know, there are books that I want to read sooo bad, and I can not find them in the library. For example, I just can not find a horror book to read. Really...a school should provide all kinds of books for their students to read like horror, mystery, funny, graphic novels, etc. Yes, a school does provide 5-10 books for each genre but the school just doesn't supply that one book that you want to read. Like, really...you have all of these books, but you don't have the book I want. Grrr..... One more reason why there isn't a perfect school. It's because the teachers don't give their students enough time to do homework! Like for math, you have to get your homework done before class tomorrow. I strongly think that teachers should give their students enough time to do their homework. It's ok. We can have school until the end of June. Teachers need to let students take their time on homework, so they are able to learn. These are some of my opinions that I consider about a perfect school though I still strongly believe that there isn't a perfect school.

My Perfect School

by: Aureliano Luna

A lot of students wish to change their school into a perfect school. Students are always thinking about making a “perfect school”. Making a perfect school would be very challenging for people because students and teachers have different perspective’s in a perfect school, but it can be done. My perfect school would have all of the teachers homework due on every Friday. The school should also have more technology so the students have the option to use different ways to learn. The school should have teachers that have very good knowledge on what they are teaching and also to give better encouragement to the students so they are more responsible. Having a perfect school would be challenging to make but it would be worth it. My perfect school would be very peaceful and for every class that the students have, their homework they get would have easy problems but also a couple of challenging problems. The assignments would be due every Friday so that way the students capable to finish it and if they have questions they would have enough time to ask for help. This option would be very helpful for everybody including the teachers. The school should also have more technology so students have more options to use and understand better. Technology is very useful to do any types of homework. Technology is also very useful for homework because some assignments can be graded and done with google programs, and that helps the teachers by not wasting time on grading assignments and making them. Making a perfect school would be very challenging but it can be done. My perfect school would have more technology options for the students and also for the teachers. For all of the homework that we get it should be due by every Friday, so that way the students have the option to finish their homework and ask for help. Using technology and having the “Perfect School” can make our future better.

9-12 Art: 1st Place

My Perfect School

by: Marco Lopez



My Perfect School

by: Fawaz Alshammari

The perfect school teaches me in the best way. If I want to make my English perfect, I should do something to help my English also improve it. First, practice, it's very important to keep practicing everywhere. This will help your English to talk with people. Also, you will feel comfortable because when you talk, you won't be shy. When you talk with anyone you make your language awesome. When I was in the USA, I chose a perfect school, it is MSOE. My school teaches me to be able to talk with people who I need to. Second, my school gives me a lot of homework because that will be good for me to know what I must to do. Also it makes me rely on myself. Finally, I like schools that have many activities such as dancing, parties and sometimes it has activities about skating in the gym that will be good for my language to keep practicing. My classmates and I always go to the CC Campus to have fun. I think it is excellent choice to study at MSOE.

Learning Environment

by: Mashael Al-Rasheed

Every body needs a good and comfortable environment to do well. For me an active environment is the best to learn things. For example, I like to learn in labs and learn by working and doing things.

That gives me energy to give more and do my best. Also, we need a patient, smart, and active teacher, who is makes us feel comfortable and not afraid to make mistakes. I think that is important to progress our learning. We need collaborative classmates. They help each other when some one needs help. The most important thing is you like what you do. Because if you don't you will not enjoy and progress in your work.

The Perfect School

by: Menawer Alotaibi

The perfect school has a lot of activities. First, my perfect school has a speak class. We meet with some people, and we talk with them. This gives us more practice, and help us to learn more English. Second, my perfect school has a film about learning English. When we watch this film, it gives us a lot of vocabulary. If we have a lot of vocabulary, we will speak English well. Next, my perfect school has a library. When We go to library because it helps us for reading and writing. Finally, my perfect school has a gym. We go to the gym with my friends, and we play soccer and basketball. This is good for us because it gives us relax. If we feel relaxing, we will study hard and do homework well. These are activities for my perfect school.