

## PUMA OVERVIEW

2022-2023

The purpose of Puma is to foster an understanding of literacy as essential for lifelong learning, empathy, agency and to augment regular literacy instruction by providing additional opportunities to develop reading, discussion, and critical thinking skills.

Students sign up for Puma as they do seminars. Pumas run a full trimester, meeting for 45 minutes, Tuesday-Friday. Students have the opportunity to earn Communication Arts and Future Readiness standards in Puma.

Puma Focus	Mental Health and the Brain	Healthy Relationships and Managing Anxiety	Debate	Sustained Silent Reading	Marquette U Book Clubs
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Students in this Puma will build their knowledge about brain science and the effects of trauma on the brain through reading and discussion.	Students in this Puma will build their knowledge about healthy relationships and managing anxiety through reading and discussion.	Students in this Puma will prepare for and participate in weekly classroom debates about social, political, and philosophical issues.	Students in this Puma will choose which books they want to read and provide book recommendations for the school community.	Students in this Puma will participate in a book club facilitated by students from Marquette University and present about their book to a Marquette audience at the end of the trimester.
<b>FREQUENCY</b>	Can only be taken once a year	Can only be taken once a year	Can only be taken once a year	Can be repeated all three trimesters	Only offered 1st and 3rd trimesters
		Sensitive topics explored – parental permission required		IMPACT experience falls outside of school hours – parental permission required	IMPACT experience falls outside of school hours – parental permission required
<b>DRIVING QUESTION</b>	How can I leverage my learning about brain science to improve my own ability to learn and also have a positive impact on my school's academic and mental health culture?	How can I leverage my learning about healthy relationships and managing anxiety to promote my personal wellness and also have a positive impact on my school's mental health culture?	How can I promote my personal intellectual growth through formal and informal debate to have a positive impact on my school's culture of critical thinking?	How can I leverage my own silent reading to promote my personal literacy growth and also have a positive impact on my school's literacy culture?	How can I contribute to productive discussions of a shared text to promote my personal literacy growth and also have a positive impact on my school's literacy culture?