



Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

Gifted and Talented

Education is provided for all identified students beginning in fourth grade. The GATE program is delivered by specially trained classroom teachers at all elementary schools in the district.

GATE Program Goals

1. Students will become critical thinkers and problem solvers.
2. Students will use increasingly complex levels of thinking and production.
3. Students will accept greater responsibility for their own learning.
4. Students will develop civic responsibility and an open-minded perspective towards a universal citizenship.

Common Characteristics of Gifted Individuals

Some common characteristics that many gifted individuals share are listed below; however, not all gifted children exhibit all the characteristics all the time.

- Unusual alertness, even in infancy
- Rapid learner; puts thoughts together quickly
- Excellent memory
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age
- Advanced comprehension of word nuances, metaphors and abstract ideas
- Enjoys solving problems, especially with numbers and puzzles
- Often self-taught reading and writing skills as preschooler
- Deep, intense feelings and reactions
- Highly sensitive
- Thinking is abstract, complex, logical, and insightful
- Idealism and sense of justice at early age
- Concern with social and political issues and injustices
- Longer attention span and intense concentration
- Preoccupied with own thoughts—daydreamer
- Learn basic skills quickly and with little practice
- Asks probing questions
- Wide range of interests (or extreme focus in one area)
- Highly developed curiosity
- Interest in experimenting and doing things differently
- Puts idea or things together that are not typical
- Keen and/or unusual sense of humor
- Desire to organize people/things through games or complex schemas