



High Achieving or Gifted?

High-achieving

Knows the answers

Has good ideas

Commits time and effort to learning

Answers questions

Is a top student

Understands ideas

Listens with interest

Is pleased with their own learning

High achievement, high growth

Gifted

Asks the questions

Has original ideas

Performs with ease

Offers detailed and unique responses

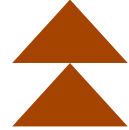
Is intense

Manipulates information

Shows strong feelings and opinions

Is highly self-critical

High achievement, low growth



Program Overview

- Students will be evaluated annually for acceptance and continuation within the District's gifted and talented program. Evaluation of criteria will take place at the beginning of each school year and within 30 days of entrance for new students.
- All enrollment in Gifted and Talented programming is fluid, and continued participation and/or entry to the program is contingent upon maintaining classroom performance while participating in additional enrichment learning opportunities.

Program Goals

The goals of the Mountainside School District's Gifted and Talented program shall be to:

- Provide gifted education integrated into the regular classroom settings.
- Assist in gifted and talented program planning and extension of the regular curriculum.
- Address the social and emotional needs of students with giftedness.
- Integrate technology in the classroom.
- Develop differentiated materials for the high ability students
- Provide training and information for teachers, parents and community members.
- Develop peer interaction, as well as creative, academic, intellectual, social and emotional growth through student-centered support.
- Foster higher order thinking, critical thinking and problem solving skills in children, by assisting teachers with differentiation for whole class instruction and teaching strategies.

Gifted & Talented Entrance Rubric

Grade level specific rubrics are used to assess student placement into the gifted and talented program in the Mountainside School District. The rubrics were developed to fairly determine students that qualify as gifted without relying solely on standardized testing. Students will be evaluated based upon multiple measures including, but not limited to those identified in Board Policy 2464.

The Mountainside School District understands that some students are incredibly gifted in one area, but not necessarily all areas. The rubrics were developed so that students with one significant area of strength may be eligible for the gifted and talented program.

For grades K-2, rubric scores are based upon information gathered from prior and current grade assessments and data.

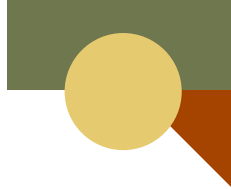

For grades 3-8, rubric scores are based upon information gathered from prior grade assessments and data.



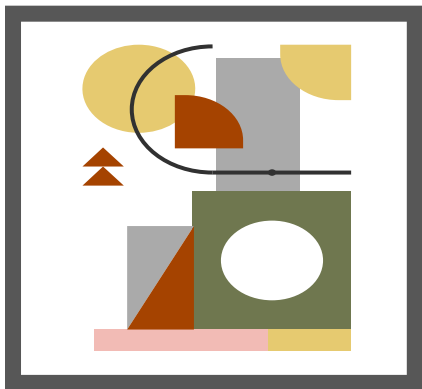


Multiple Measures Considered

Grades K-2

- EOY TC Reading Levels
 - BOY for Kindergarten
 - Writing Sample
 - Math Performance Assessments (average of tasks across years)
 - Big Ideas Post Course Assessment
 - Pre Course Assessment for eligible Kindergarteners
 - iReady Reading and Math Assessments for grades 1 and 2
 - Optional –Teacher Inventory
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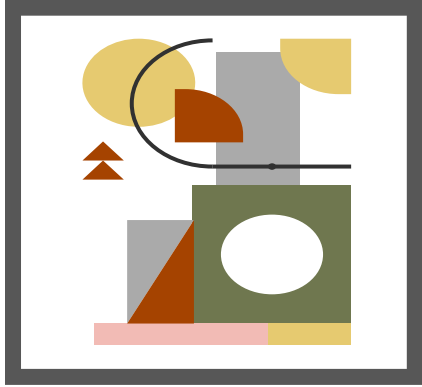
Multiple Measures Considered



Grades 3-5

- i-Ready ELA and Math Spring Scores (Grades 3-5)
- End of the Year Teachers College Reading Level (Grades 3-5)
- NJSLA ELA & Math Scores (Grades 4 & 5)
- CogATs (Grades 3-5)
- Big Ideas Post Course Assessment (Grade 3)

Multiple Measures Considered



Grades 6-8

- iReady ELA and Math Spring Scores (Grade 6)
- CogAT Scores (Grade 6 & 7)
- End of the Year Teachers College Reading Level (Grade 6)
- LinkIt! ELA and Math EOY Benchmark Scores (Grades 7 & 8)
- EOY GPA (Grades 7 & 8)
- NJSLA ELA and Math Scores (Grades 6-8)

Gifted & Talented Entrance Rubric

Students must achieve at least 75% of the possible rubric points for consideration. Rubrics are based on a scale of:

- Exceeding Expectations (95th percentile or higher on benchmarks or summative assessments) = 2 points
 - Meeting Expectations (90th percentile or higher on benchmarks or summative assessments) = 1 point
 - Below Expectations (< 90th percentile) = 0 points
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- A “free” point is awarded to students who are already in the program

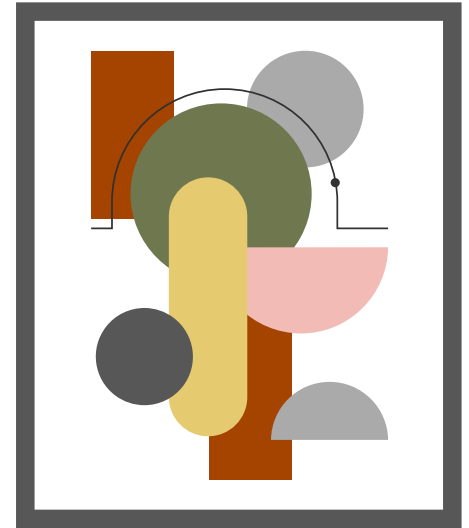


Continuum of Services

- The Mountainside School District's Gifted and Talented program will provide students with high abilities in one or more areas with opportunities that will challenge them in regular classroom settings as well as enrichment programs, where appropriate, that will enable them to make continuous progress in school. The services will span grades K-8 and will be provided through the following continuum:

Grades K-2

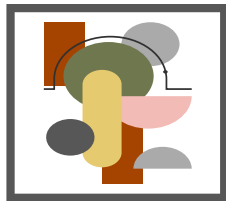
- Identified students will be provided with collaborative and individual enrichment opportunities through differentiated instruction. This differentiation will be facilitated daily by the classroom teacher.
 - Reading/Math specialists and additional staff will be available to support teachers by providing enrichment materials, project-based tasks, and suggestions for personalized learning opportunities as needed.
- H.A.M.S.T.E.R (humanities, arts, math, science, technology, engineering, and reading) In this class, all students will be immersed in educational experiences to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills across multiple subject areas. Students will think critically before taking action. They will ask questions, imagine solutions, generate ideas, and then plan, collect, and present data.



Continuum of Services

Grades 3-5

- Identified students will be provided with collaborative and individual enrichment opportunities through differentiated instruction. This differentiation will be facilitated daily by the classroom teacher.
 - Reading/Math specialists and additional staff will be available to support teachers by providing enrichment materials, project-based tasks, and suggestions for personalized learning opportunities as needed.
- Identified students will also have the opportunity to participate in scheduled sessions with a Gifted & Talented teacher. Currently these program opportunities occur before or after school.

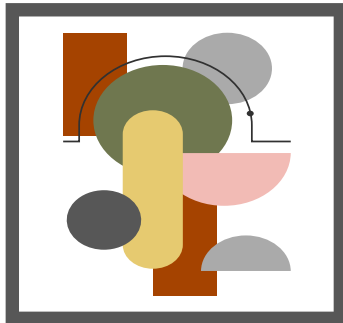


Course	Engineering Design	Morning Brain	24 Club
Day Offered	Mondays	Wednesdays	Tuesdays & Thursdays
Time Held	7:30-8:05 a.m.	7:30-8:05 a.m.	3:05-3:40 p.m.
Instructor	Mrs. Barkin	Ms. Starling	Mrs. Sardina
Grade Levels	Grades 5-8	Grades 3-5	Grades 3-5
Course Description	The engineering design gifted and talented course will encourage students to identify an area of the designed world that could use improvement. Once this area is identified students will begin working through the engineering design process to develop viable solutions. Students who participate in this class will have the option to submit their work into various competitions if they choose to do so.	Students will be challenged by participating in a variety of critical thinking, visual perception, problem solving, and deductive reasoning skills games and puzzles. These brain challenging games and puzzles with a variety of levels will help enhance strategic thinking skills while having a lively and enjoyable time.	The 24 Game is a unique mathematics teaching tool proven to successfully engage students in grades 1-9. This game provides fabulous math facts practice! It's so simple: just make the number 24 from the four numbers on the card. You can add or subtract or multiply ... The object of the game is to make 24 using all four numbers on a card. You can add, subject, multiply and divide, but use each number only once. There is at least one solution to every card. VIDEO: HOW TO PLAY https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWEEu9JxyYo

Continuum of Services

Grades 6-8

- Identified students have the opportunity to be placed in accelerated and Honors level academic courses. (LAL, Science, & Spanish) These courses are designed around a philosophy of curriculum compacting and acceleration.
- Identified students will also have the opportunity to participate in scheduled sessions with a Gifted & Talented teacher. Currently these program opportunities occur before or after school.



Course	Engineering Design	Math Competitions/Contests	Deerfield Book Club	Language Arts Contests and Opportunities
Day Offered	Tuesdays	TBD	Fridays	TBD
Time Held	7:30-8:05 a.m.	TBD	7:30-8:05 a.m.	TBD
Instructor	Mrs. Barkin	Mrs. Crisafulli	Ms. Freer	Mrs. Topel
Grade Levels	Grades 5-8	Grades 6-8	Grades 6-8	Grades 6-8
Course Description	<p>The engineering design gifted and talented course will encourage students to identify an area of the designed world that could use improvement. Once this area is identified students will begin working through the engineering design process to develop viable solutions.</p> <p>Students who participate in this class will have the option to submit their work to various competitions if they choose to do so.</p>	<p>Mrs. Crisafulli will be offering opportunities for students to be involved in various math competitions/contests throughout the school year. She will have students join a Google Classroom to alert them of upcoming events and mathematical opportunities.</p>	<p>In the Deerfield Book Club, we will read books from several different genres and topics. Each week, students will be expected to independently read the assigned pages. We will use our weekly meeting for discussions and activities!</p>	<p>Mrs. Topel will be offering opportunities for students to be involved in various language arts contests and opportunities throughout the school year. She will have students join a Google Classroom to alert them of upcoming events and language arts based opportunities.</p>

Appeals Process

- Students whose parents feel they were not identified appropriately through the selection process may appeal to the building principal of the school their child attends.
- The parent may submit a written statement explaining why he or she feels their child should be granted admittance in the Gifted and Talented Program. In addition the student may be asked to submit a portfolio of work.
- A meeting will be held between the parents and principal to discuss and review student performance.



Questions?

