**Meeting Individual Needs Through Curriculum Compacting**

 The Holly Springs School District Provides Options for all high ability learners. One way in which we do this is through Curriculum Compacting. Curriculum compacting is a way teachers can meet the needs of gifted students in the regular classroom. It is a content accelerated strategy that allows students to skip parts of the curriculum they have already mastered. It also allows for the streamlining of skills for students to master in a shorter period of time. Curriculum compacting can also help teachers with accountability in that it shows the teacher what skills have already been mastered and therefore helps to direct the teacher in developing appropriate enrichment activities to challenge and expand the students understanding of content.

 Curriculum compacting is a process that includes three phases:

1. Defining goals and outcomes.
2. Identifying candidates for compacting
3. Providing acceleration and enrichment activities.

Teachers, parents, and students need to be aware of what the goals and outcomes of the class are. This would include the skills that are to be tested on during the year. Students for curriculum compacting should be identified by an assessment that is approved by the school. This assessment can be done by testing or rubric.

Once a student has been identified for curriculum compacting a conference between the parent, student, teacher, and teacher of the gifted should be held to determine what enrichment activities would be best for the student’s needs and interests. The extracurricular activities cannot be a repeat of the seatwork that the peers are doing. They should be self-directed projects that will enhance the student’s learning within the area of interest and increase motivation to master more skills in a rapid manner.