

### **Mission Statement**

The gifted education program provides appropriate instruction for eligible students by delivering effective and innovative strategies beyond the basic curriculum.

The program will challenge and empower students to produce quality work and to become productive citizens while protecting and nurturing their unique characteristics.



### **Program Options**

Primary, Elementary and Middle School students are offered a range of programs. These programs, strategically located throughout the district, are provided through the resource room model.

If gifted students are not served at the home school, eligible students for the gifted program will be transported to the nearest gifted program site.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Students are eligible for the gifted education program if they meet the following criteria as outlined by the State of Georgia:

A student who demonstrates a high degree of intellectual and/or creative ability(ies), exhibits an exceptionally high degree of motivation, and/or excels in specific academic fields, and who needs special instruction and/or special ancillary services to achieve at levels commensurate with his or her abilities.

If a child meets the above criteria, the parent/guardian should contact their child's school counselor to refer the child for screening and evaluation. All students must be referred at their home school.

An eligibility team in each school will review all pertinent information and help to determine the student's eligibility.

### **Curriculum**

What is appropriately differentiated curriculum for gifted learners? To provide appropriate and challenging educational experiences for gifted student, differentiated may include:

- Acceleration of instruction;
- In-depth study;
- A high degree of complexity;
- Advanced content; and/or
- Variety in content, process and products

A qualitatively different curriculum for gifted students consists of carefully planned, coordinated learning experiences that meet the specific learning needs of the student. Curricular strategies of enrichment and acceleration are combined to provide flexibility and diversity. Appropriate differentiation allows for increasing levels of advanced, abstract, and complex curriculum that are substantive and respond to the learner's needs.

### **Teacher Certification**

State guidelines require that full time gifted program teachers meet professional gifted certification requirements prior to beginning work in gifted education.