



Middleton School District

Middleton School District
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Gifted & Talented Program

Middleton School District

The Future in Progress

*Providing Quality Education
 Preparing Responsible Citizens
 Promoting Lifelong Learning*

Philosophy

All current students with substantiated gifts and /or talents in the Middleton School District shall be provided with an opportunity designed to enrich, sustain, challenge and ensure continued growth. We recognize that these students may require differentiated instruction and opportunities. Administrators, facilitators, and teachers will work together with parents and community to ensure that the educational needs of our gifted and/or talented students are met. It is our goal to provide the settings that best stimulate these students to reach their potential.

Definition of Giftedness

“Gifted and talented children” refers to those students who are identified as possessing demonstrated or potential abilities that give evidence of high performing capabilities in specific academic, intellectual, creative, or leadership areas, or ability in the performing or visual arts. These students require services or activities not ordinarily provided by the school in order to fully develop their capabilities.

Eligibility Criteria

There are three criteria for placement in the Formal Gifted and Talented Program. Students must qualify on **one** formal assessment at the 95th percentile or higher and **two** informal assessments to be eligible.

Program

General Information

The Gifted and Talented Program extends the School District’s mission by providing services to children who have unique social, emotional and cognitive needs. The program provides, to these substantiated children, a faster pace of instruction, a greater depth of exploration of topics, exposure to advanced curriculum, frequent choice of what and how to learn and the opportunity to interact with gifted and talented peers. The program also provides consultation to classroom teachers to support their efforts at differentiating curriculum for gifted and talented students in the general education classroom.

Formal GT Program

Students who qualify meet weekly for 2-3 hours with one of the GT facilitators for a semester-long in depth project. Currently 2 and 3rd graders meet together as well as the 4th and 5th.

Advanced Student Services

The facilitators also provide support to advanced students. They work with classroom teachers by researching and gathering resources and planning and providing small group instruction when appropriate for students advanced in particular subjects.

Referral Process

A student may be referred for the GT Pull Out program by a teacher, parent, community member, administrator or by self referral in grades 2 through 5. Parents/Guardians and the classroom teacher will be asked to complete the Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales (GATES) for the referred student. Parents nominating their child will be asked to complete the Parent Referral Form. GT students who move into the Middleton School District from another District will be screened for eligibility.

Program Goals

- To provide a challenging opportunity to learn academic skills that exceed Idaho grade level standards.
- To help students use their intellectual abilities and interests to their greatest potential and expand their repertoire of skills in responding to the problems presented in their environment.
- To help students develop the skills and habits of successful leaders.
- To provide a wide range of opportunities and experiences that allow students to experiment, create products, and broaden their thinking skills as they explore their creativity.
- To provide opportunities and experiences that allow GT students to develop their abilities and strengths in specific areas in the visual and/or performing arts.