

Springfield Public Schools

Gifted and Talented Program

Elementary School

Grades K-5

As per state regulations, Springfield has a Board of Education approved Gifted and Talented (G&T) Program. Those students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability, in one or more content areas, when compared to their chronological peers in the local district and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities. The main components of the program are as follows. Each teacher differentiates instruction for his/her students to maximize learning.

- The G&T teacher provides activities and experiences that expand student creativity including challenging activities that enhance individual exploration. The observation and identification of students is a collaborative effort that incorporates classroom teacher observations, G&T teacher observations and data provided through Cogats (tested grades 3 and 5, only), all material is reviewed by the building principal, classroom teacher, G&T teacher, for identification that facilitate appropriate interventions.
- The G&T teacher “pushes-in” to each class in grades K-5. Activities are structured to enhance the learning at that level; incorporating social-emotional, creative, and spatial activities among others. Activities are then sustainable within the classroom. In addition, through consultation, the G&T teacher is available to consult with teachers on specific children or a group of children and suggest activities to expand learning on various curricular topics. The G&T teacher also serves as a resource through the suggestion of activities experienced within the classroom curricula.
- As always, the first step is to communicate with the child’s teacher, working together in the best interests of the child. Additionally, parents should consider a discussion with the school guidance counselor and communicate with the principal to discuss the child’s needs.

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Middle School

Grades 6 – 8

Under the direction of the G&T teacher identified students will have learning experiences enriched, enhanced and extended beyond the general curriculum. Such expansion will include, alternative reading material, focused projects, and student selected interests that expand the core content areas beyond the mandated curriculum.

Beginning in grade 7, identified students will be scheduled into Algebra and Geometry in grade 8. Also included in this program is individual and group training in creative problem solving and research techniques. The program includes two portions; students may be in both or either. In the first portion of the program, the G&T teacher co-teaches the group's Communication Arts course each year, following the student groups through grades to provide extension and enrichment above and beyond the standard rigor of their courses. In the second portion of the program, students meet weekly to engage lateral thinking exercises and work on an inquiry research project that's sustained through the duration of the year and culminates in community presentations.

High School

Grades 9 – 12

ACCELERATED PROGRAMS FOR JONATHAN DAYTON STUDENTS DAYTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

The Dayton Collegiate Academy (DCA) encompasses the development of the intellectual, creative, and socio-emotional growth potential of identified high school gifted students. Eighth graders interested in participation in a challenging learning environment will apply to the accelerated Dayton Collegiate Academy. To add rigor to their schedules, the selected cohort of students will be enrolled in advanced placement courses starting their freshmen year. Additional opportunities include selection of advanced placement courses, academic contests and competitions, interest groups and clubs, as well as leadership activities.

CORE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Freshmen – AP Art History, English 1 Honors, DCA Writing and Research
- Sophomores – AP English Language
- Juniors – AP Statistics, AP English Literature, AP American Government and Politics / AP Macro Economics
- Seniors – Senior Seminar

DISTRIBUTION COURSE REQUIREMENTS: during the students' four high school years, they will select a minimum of three additional (3) AP courses in either the Humanities or the Math/Sciences.