

WEST WING SCHOOL

2019-2020 GIFTED CONTINUUM OF SERVICES

GIFTED SPECIALIST: ANGIE.SCHULTZ@DVUSD.ORG

West Wing's Gifted Program maximizes students' complex academic growth and enhances individual strengths while supporting students' social and emotional needs.



GIFTED SERVICES PROVIDED

Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gifted Cluster
Grade 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gifted Cluster
Grades 2 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gifted Cohort• Walk-Up To Math
Grade 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gifted Cluster
Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gifted Cohort in ELA and Social Studies• Advanced Science and Math Classes• Walk-Up To Math• High School Algebra
Extracurricular Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Junior Honor Society• Student Council• Before and After School Clubs and Activities• Middle School Athletics• Yearbook

GIFTED PLACEMENT

Gifted Testing and Scores: Students are assessed in three areas (Verbal, Quantitative, & Nonverbal) using the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) assessment. West Wing offers gifted services for students who score at or above 95% in one or more areas. Placement testing is conducted three times a year based on teacher and parent recommendations. Students may also qualify based on other state approved gifted identification assessments. Students may only be tested once per calendar year.

NEW THIS YEAR!

THE GIFTED COHORT

The Gifted Cohort in the elementary grades is a full day gifted service model. Gifted identified students are placed into one class at their grade level with only other gifted identified students.

In middle school, gifted identified students are placed into one ELA and one Social Studies class at their grade level with only other gifted identified students. Students are placed in Advanced Science and Math classes with other grade level peers.



DEER VALLEY
Unified School District

GIFTED PROGRAMS

Gifted Cluster: All gifted students are clustered together for the entire school day with a highly qualified and gifted trained teacher. At West Wing, students in Kindergarten, First Grade, and Fourth Grade are placed into Gifted Cluster classrooms.



Gifted Cohort: The Gifted Cohort at the elementary grades is a full day gifted service model. Gifted identified students are placed into one class at their grade level with only other gifted identified students. This cohort may stay with their homeroom teacher all day or move from teacher to teacher as a group depending on the configuration at each grade level. In middle school, gifted students are placed into one ELA and one Social Studies class with only other gifted identified students. The Cohort classes are taught by teachers who have or are working on earning their Gifted Endorsement. Students are placed in the level of math for which they are ready and are encouraged to move ahead in groups through the curriculum as appropriate. Students scoring below the 95th percentile may be placed in the Cohort, provisionally, if room is available. Final decision on provisional placements is up to the Gifted Specialist and School Principal.

Walk-Up To Math: Walk-Up To Math is an accelerated math pathway that was implemented in the 2018-2019 school year and allows gifted and high achieving math students to compact grade level instruction and accelerate their learning of the next grade level's standards. Students in second grade are taught all of the second grade math standards and half of the third grade standards. Students in third grade are taught the remaining third grade standards and all of the fourth grade standards. By the 2020-2021 school year, fourth grade students will be working a grade level ahead in math and are on track to take Algebra for high school credit in eighth grade. As we transition to full implementation of the program, students in fifth grade follow our previous service model in which they are placed into an accelerated class where they are taught both the fifth and sixth grade level math standards. This model also allows students to take Algebra for high school credit in eighth grade.

Advanced Content Classes: Qualifying gifted and high achieving students are placed in advanced content area classes similar to high school honors classes.

IN THE CLASSROOMS

Flexible Grouping: Teachers use flexible grouping strategies and employ several organizational patterns for instruction. Students are grouped and regrouped according to specific goals, activities, and individual needs. When making grouping decisions, the dynamics and advantages inherent in each type of group must be considered. Both teacher-led and student-led groups can contribute to learning. Students are grouped and regrouped according to specific learning goals. Students will be placed into the same flexible groups with other high achieving peers, taught by a highly qualified gifted teacher in order to provide inclusive gifted services.

Departmentalization: Teachers teach a narrow range of subjects and the students rotate between the classrooms. This allows teachers to specialize and focus on a few subject areas and the students to become familiar with different teaching styles and expectations.

Differentiation: The teacher, after getting to know his/her students, groups them for activities based on each individual student's academic needs and/or areas of interest. Tiered and differentiated lessons and activities are provided to students focusing on the same required concept or skill, but students are working, usually in groups, on different levels and applications of the skill or concept based on their learning needs.