

Mission Statement

The Gifted Education Program provides appropriate instruction for eligible students by delivering effective and innovative strategies beyond the basic classroom curriculum. The program is designed to challenge and empower students to produce quality work and to become productive citizens while protecting and nurturing their unique characteristics.



Gifted & Talented Education
School District of Palm Beach County



Program Options

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Elementary gifted students are offered a range of programs from part-time to full-time. These programs, strategically located throughout the district, are provided through the Resource Room Model or The Gifted Center Model. If the home school does not have a full time Gifted Program, students are transferred to the home school's receiving Gifted Center. Students at schools with Part-time Gifted Programs are given the option of remaining at the home school or being transferred to the home school's receiving Gifted Center.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Middle School students may choose appropriate gifted education courses from those available at their home schools. If the home school does not provide gifted services, the students are transferred to the gifted Middle School Center that is geographically closest to their home. Middle School gifted students are offered gifted instruction in the core subjects in 27 schools throughout the district.

HIGH SCHOOLS

High School gifted students have a number of options. Magnet programs such as the International Baccalaureate, Math-Science Engineering, Pre-Medicine and Allied Health Professions, and Pre-Law are available; as well as Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment.



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A qualitatively different curriculum for a gifted student consists of carefully planned, educational opportunities that meet the specific learning needs of the gifted learner.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A GIFTED STUDENT

Gifted children typically display some, but not necessarily all, of the following characteristics:

- Uses an enriched vocabulary
- Asks deep questions
- Expresses unusual ideas
- Has a wide range of interests
- Uses complex sentences
- Acts independently
- Displays curiosity
- Possesses leadership traits
- Works at a high-energy level
- Has a long attention span
- Reads at an early age
- Understands concept of time
- Likes self-directed activities
- Is sensitive to other's feelings
- Has a keen sense of humor
- Is able to conceptualize
- Learns skills rapidly
- Enjoys learning
- Reasons well
- Is a perfectionist



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Curriculum differentiation is incorporated to provide flexibility in instruction. Strategies used may include:

- ◆ in depth study
- ◆ a high degree of complexity
- ◆ advanced content
- ◆ variety in content, process and/or product
- ◆ acceleration of instruction

Teachers of the Gifted in Palm Beach County Schools:

Florida state requirement for the Gifted Endorsement to be added to a teaching certificate includes fifteen semester hours of course credit in the following areas of instruction:

- Module 1: Nature and Needs of Gifted Student;
- Module 2: Theory and Development of Creativity,
- Module 3: Guidance and Counseling of the Gifted,
- Module 4: Special Populations of Gifted Students, and
- Module 5: Curriculum for the Gifted.



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Students are eligible for the Gifted Education Program through Plan A if they meet the following criteria:

- A need for the program as demonstrated by evidence of a majority of gifted characteristics scored on a District Gifted Characteristic Checklist form completed by a Department of Education state certified teacher; and
- A score of 130 or higher on an individually administered Intelligence Quotient Test.

Students qualify under Plan B if they meet the Eligibility Requirements as outlined in the Gifted Handbook and/or the SP&P, "District Plan B for Under-represented Populations".

Under-represented Populations include English Language Learners (ELL) and those students on free or reduced lunch.