# LEAP Overview

LEAP stands for *Learning Enrichment Activities Program*. In the Orange School District, LEAP falls under the Department of Special Services and is overseen by the Director of Special Services, Mary Edo. Monica Harned is the LEAP teacher serving students in Orange Public Schools.

**Mission Statement:** *The purpose of LEAP is to promote awareness and cultivate acceptance of children's unique gifts and talents, to identify and nurture those gifts and talents, and to foster an enriching learning environment for all students.*

The program follows the Schoolwide Enrichment Program philosophy founded by Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli, Professor of Education at the University of Connecticut and Director of the National Research Center for the Gifted and Talented. It provides talent pool enrichment opportunities for children in grades 4 – 6. The goal is to give students the chance to explore areas of interest to a greater extent and to expand their higher-level thinking skills.