



Gifted and Talented Information

The Oshkosh Area School District offers quality programming designed to meet the needs of highly able students through differentiation of the regular curriculum within the classroom, and through providing specialized options to students as needed. This full range of services, at every educational level, is vital to a quality educational program for gifted students. These services must be varied and flexible, as gifted/talented students represent a diverse group of learners.

We believe that gifted students benefit from interaction with students of similar abilities and talents. The Instructional Support Teachers (IST) work with classroom teachers to help support appropriate grouping and class placement, as well as differentiation of the curriculum, instruction, and evaluation.

Common Myths about Giftedness

- *Gifted kids will be okay anyway:* They're smart! When their needs for appropriate challenge and social/emotional support are not met, gifted kids may begin to hide their talents, underachieve, and develop behaviors that put them at risk in school and in their social life. They can develop unrealistic expectations of themselves and others, leading to perfectionist behaviors. As with all children, their potential needs to be nurtured in order to develop fully. It is essential that gifted children and their teachers receive the support and guidance of educators who are trained in meeting the needs of gifted children.
- *Gifted kids are all geeks or bookworms.* Most gifted kids do not stand out in a crowd. For the most part, gifted kids who have support and appropriate programming are well-rounded individuals who are outstanding scholars as well as athletes, artists, leaders, and good friends.
- *Gifted kids don't need special programs.* They can tutor other students and do independent study. Every child deserves a teacher. Every child deserves to learn something new every day and deserves to grow and learn to their full potential.

- *Gifted kids can do more work to keep them challenged.* Being gifted means that a child learns at a rapid pace, with fewer repetitions than most children. Getting more to do, of the same work, does not meet the needs of a gifted child. Gifted children who get more work to do in addition to their regular work soon learn that it doesn't pay to be gifted! More appropriately challenging work that is assigned in place of, rather than in addition to, the regular work, is what best meets the needs of gifted students.

[GT Calendar of Events](#)



Enrichment Opportunities for Gifted and Talented Students

MPS - (Grades 7 and 8) (Previously titled "WCATY")

MPS (Milwaukee Public School - Center for Advanced Academics) offers programs for those students needing more enrichment within their literacy learning. Students will meet with MPS instructors three different dates during their session (Winter or Spring). The programs are rigorous and in-depth, encouraging students to think at a deeper level. IST/GT staff at each middle school building will contact students for potential participation.

College Day for Kids (Grade 5)

Gifted and Talented students are invited to spend a day at UWO and participate in three different classes. Lunch at Blackhawk Commons is provided. Information will be mailed to GT students during February.

DATE OF EVENT: **TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019**

"THINKING LIKE A SCIENTIST-Anatomy (Grades 2- 4)

Gifted and talented students in grades 2-4 have the opportunity to attend this fun filled day of learning at UW Oshkosh Science Outreach Center. Students will be placed in small groups to fully experience the hands-on opportunities of this event. *Limited no. of participants.*

DATE OF EVENT: TBD

UW-Oshkosh, Halsey Science Center

GT ART EVENTS

Throughout each school year there are a variety of art opportunities for our Gifted and Talented art students. Events can be for all grades or may focus on specific grade levels, depending upon the activity/skill set needed.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Watercolor Techniques Workshop

Date: Thursday, December 20th

Location: Jacob Shapiro Elementary

Time: 8:00-2:15/2:30

Fee: \$8.00

Registration deadline is Monday, 12/10

Creative Creatures

Date: Friday, January 25th

Location: Jacob Shapiro Elementary

Time: 8:00-2:15/2:30

Fee: \$8.00

Registration deadline is Monday, 1/7



Creative Creatures Event Photos

Please call the GT office if you have questions - 424-0349