

## **Updates 10/28/25:**

- ★ Discovery Applications are OPEN. Here is the [LINK](#) if you are interested. Please reach out to me if you think you would like to apply. I can go over what the process requires. My email is [awilson3@dcsdk12.org](mailto:awilson3@dcsdk12.org).
  - Application Deadline is December 4, 2025
- ★ Universal CogAT testing for 5th and 6th Grade and Grades 3-4 referrals will take place from November 3-21, 2025

## **Gifted and Talented Information**

### **Meet your Facilitator**

Hello, my name is Lauren Wilson. I am the Gifted and Talented Facilitator at Castle Rock Elementary. My job is to address the unique needs of every gifted and talented learner at our school. I graduated from the University of Missouri with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in 2006. In 2022, I completed the Gifted Academy graduate program at Christian Brothers University.

If you need to get in contact with me, my email is [awilson3@dcsdk12.org](mailto:awilson3@dcsdk12.org).

### **Philosophy and Programming**

DCSD offers a variety of programming options to meet the full spectrum of needs of our gifted learners. In alignment with the The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) guiding principles and programming standards, a continuum of programming services exist for gifted learners in DCSD. Each school is served by a gifted education facilitator who collaborates/ consults with classroom teachers. Gifted Education Comprehensive Program Plan (Douglas Re 1, Castle Rock 7) and other support staff appropriately plan instruction and learning opportunities to meet the needs of gifted/ high potential learners.

Gifted Programming is designed to meet the academic, social/ emotional, and behavioral needs of students identified with advanced learning needs. Teachers and support staff differentiate learning opportunities to meet these needs. Each school site provides for gifted learners through the implementation of some or all of the following strategies:

- Differentiated instruction
- Curriculum compacting
- Content acceleration
- Grade level/content acceleration

- Mentorships
- Tiered assignments
- Cluster grouping
- Flexible grouping
- Independent study
- Project-based learning
- Leadership opportunities

Here at Castle Rock Elementary we will help meet the needs of our GT students through many of the strategies listed above. Universal strategies used throughout our school include:

- Social/Emotional support groups (discuss topics specific to the GT population)
- Curriculum support (Ed Zaccaro Math, William and Mary Language Arts units, Junior Great Books, Jacob's Ladder)

## **Gifted Identification**

If you believe your child needs evaluation for Gifted Identification and Services, **and you have not done so already**, please initiate the Gifted Identification Referral Process by completing the referral form linked

[English Gifted Referral Form](#)

[Formulario de recomendación- Español](#)

## **Other Valuable Resources:**

- [DCSD Gifted Programming Website](#)
- [Douglas County Association of Gifted and Talented \(DCAGT\)](#)
- [Colorado Association of Gifted and Talented \(CAGT\)](#)
- [National Association for Gifted Children \(NAGC\)](#)
- [Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted \(SENG\)](#)
- Colorado Department of Education - [Gifted Information](#)
- [GT Enrichment Opportunities](#)