

Gifted Programs in the Minneapolis/St. Paul MN Metro Area 2008-2009

Location Map: <http://www.zeemaps.com/map?group=114380>

Atheneum

Inver Grove Heights

Grades K-6

Salem Hills Elementary School, 5899 Babcock Trail, Inver Grove Heights
 Erin Boltik, 651-306-7750.

2008–2009 Program

Second-, third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students who qualify will attend the program at Salem Hills Elementary School. Qualifying sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders will be enrolled in the Honors Program at Inver Grove Heights Middle School. We offer an Advanced Placement Program as well as honors classes at the high school.

Criteria		
<i>WISC-IV</i> or <i>Stanford-Binet 5</i> (cognitive ability)	Superior Range	Aptitude Test
<i>CogAT</i> Cognitive Abilities Test	130+ Target 120+ Considered	Ability Test
<i>MAP Reading</i> Measures of Academic Progress	2+ years above grade level	Achievement Test
<i>MAP Math</i> Measures of Academic Progress	2+ years above grade level	Achievement Test
<i>MAP Language</i> Measures of Academic Progress	2+ years above grade level	Achievement Test
<i>MCA</i> Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment	4 or 5	Achievement Test
Classroom Teacher Input	Recommendation	
Outside data or testing results submitted by parent will also be considered. Student interview and/or portfolio required upon request.		

Intellectual

Atheneum’s instructional system ensures a daily delivery of challenging differentiated curriculum in all academic core areas. Using district-adopted curriculum and standards as our point of departure, we provide a well-rounded and rigorous academic experience by incorporating a variety of resources. These may include William and Mary gifted curriculum, Junior Great Books, Mentoring Mathematical Minds series, Navigation math series, Michael Clay Thompson social studies and language arts units and competitions such as Continental Math League, Quiz Bowl and Word Masters.

Creative

Using programs such as ExploraVision, Destination Imagination, Lego League, Inventor's Fair and Drama Choros, along with on-going lessons on creative thinking skills, students strengthen their abilities as creative problem-solvers.

Affective

Helping kids understand what it means to be gifted is an ongoing aspect of Atheneum. Students explore a variety of social issues that are associated with giftedness.

Burnsville/Lakeville Magnet

Grades 3, 4, 5

952-707-2077

Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District 191 and Lakeville Area School District 194 are working together on a joint integration plan to provide new learning opportunities for students that boost academic achievement and increase interracial contact. The plan includes programs and activities designed to attract voluntary participation of students from both school districts.

Magnet initiatives are one part of the integration plan. Magnets offer specialized areas of study in addition to the district's core curriculum. Four magnet initiatives have been officially approved in ISD 191 to open in September of 2009.

Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented Magnet School

Grades 1 – 8

560 Concordia, St. Paul, MN

651-325-2500

Grades 1-6 General Information

The Naglieri Non-verbal Ability Test (NNAT) is a test to identify students who are eligible for gifted and talented services within the school district. All Saint Paul Public Schools students in kindergarten and second grade will take this new test in 2002-2003. Students in grades 1, 3, 4 and 5 may also be nominated to receive special permission to take the test based on their high test scores and outstanding school work. Students who are identified to be gifted and talented are then eligible for gifted/talented services at any St. Paul School. They are also eligible for Capitol Hill Magnet School. If there are no openings, a student is placed on the waiting list. (Names are randomly selected from the pool for each opening. Each year a new pool is formed.)

There are days set aside for non-public and charter school students to take the assessment. Contact the district Gifted & Talented Services for more information at (651) 793-5525.

Grades 7-8 General Information

There is open enrollment for the Junior High. If there are no openings names are randomly selected from a pool of students who have applied.

Grants & Research Office

Intermediate District 287 · 1820 North Xenium Lane · Plymouth, Minnesota 55441

Phone: 763-550-7154 · FAX: 763-550-7199

<http://www.grantsandresearchhelp.us>

Dimensions Academy

Grades 4 - 7

Dr. Richard Cash, Director

(952) 681-6438

rcash@bloomington.k12.mn.us

Dimensions Academy, a self-contained classroom-based program is designed to meet the unique educational and social/emotional needs of gifted children in grades 4-8 who have exceptional academic skills. Open enrollment option is available to students who do not live within the city of Bloomington.

Dimensions Academy provides a highly rigorous content at an accelerated pace, therefore this program is not for all students. Student selection is based on the Bloomington Public Schools' assessment measures or other professional assessments that deem this program to be educationally beneficial for highly/profoundly gifted children.

For a copy of the **Dimensions Academy Curriculum Scope and Sequence**

http://www.bloomington.k12.mn.us/departments/gifted_and_talented/dimensions_academy/documents/DAScopeandSequence_001.pdf

PLACEMENT CRITERIA:

Highly Qualified:

- Computerized Achievement Level Testing (CALT) or other acceptable* standardized achievement testing $\geq 98\%$ on Reading **and** Math **OR**
- IQ Measure ≥ 140
* Achievement Testing other than CALT/MAP/NWEA must be approved by the Placement Committee
Plus Teacher or other education professional recommendation

Qualified:

Computerized Achievement Level Testing (CALT) or other acceptable* standardized achievement testing $\geq 95\%$ on Reading **and** Math **OR**

- IQ Measure ≥ 130
* Achievement Testing other than CALT/MAP/NWEA must be approved by the Placement Committee
Plus Teacher or other education professional recommendation

Other data considered for placement:

- parent, outside consultant/psychologist, other school district criteria

Gateway

Grades 3 - 6

Nancy Vague

Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Services

South Washington County Schools

(651) 458-6212

nvague@swc833.org

<http://www.sowashco.k12.mn.us/Departments/Gifted/classroomModel.asp>

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The Gateway program, currently located at Royal Oaks Elementary, is intended for children who are profoundly gifted and have exceptional abilities. Gateway challenges highly gifted students who have demonstrated needs beyond the Cluster Classroom model.

The Gateway program currently includes students in grades 3 through 6. The Gateway classroom provides students with an opportunity to interact with their intellectual peers to enhance social and emotional growth in a technology rich environment.

Gateway is currently housed at Royal Oaks Elementary School and students eat lunch, attend specialist classes and experience field trips with other students in the building. They also participate in band, orchestra, choir and intramural activities such as sports and chess club.

The Learning

A primary objective of the classroom is to place greater emphasis on high level cognitive abilities. Able learners progress at an accelerated rate or at an in-depth level. The Gateway curriculum was designed to be thematic with a strong focus on writing and discussion across all subject areas. Some accelerated grade level material is used and other content is enhanced by the use of William & Mary units developed for gifted students. Gateway is rigorous, student-centered and results-oriented so all individuals can learn.

The Lighthouse Program

Spring Lake Park Schools

Ages 7-18

http://www.springlakeparkschools.org/schools/la/la_lighthouse.asp

Dr. Bill Keilty, Ed.D., Coordinator and Developer of the Lighthouse Program

763-795-6686 or bkeilt@district16.org

Lighthouse Program student	Lighthouse Program student
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated pace of learning • Non graded, multi-aged grouping • Integrated curriculum • Opportunities for on-line Learning • Opportunities to experience the practices of experts • Depth of study in complex Inquiry • Student focused learning • Teacher/facilitator focused on students' learning • Connections to rigorous high school options • Collaborative and competitive opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is in possession of an insatiable curiosity • Is drawn to complex ideas • Is comfortable with ambiguity in learning • Is self-directed in learning • Is eager to learn the practice of experts from discipline • Is capable of working effectively with team members • Is capable of a sustained focus to resolve questions • Is recognized as highly able in performance, as well as, potential • Is currently 7-18 years of age

The Lighthouse Program is a unique educational opportunity for the highly gifted. Its uniqueness emerges in the curriculum approach that focuses on the 21st Century skills of critical and creating thinking, inquiry, collaboration and competition. Providing opportunities

for in-depth learning, the inquiry approach opens the doors for motivated students to satisfy their curiosity. Engaged in inquiry, students bring to bear their critical thinking skills (<http://www.ncrel.org/sdrs/areas/issues/envrnmnt/drugfree/sa3crit.htm>) to answer their questions and their creative skills to share their new understandings. Preparing students for the 21st century in the Lighthouse Program includes providing the opportunity to learn world languages in a dynamic environment. Currently 6 world languages are being studied through an on-line learning program employed in business around the world.

Mathematics learning is match to the individual. Students are enrolled a variety math learning processes; some students are learning on-line in a common program, while others are taking course work at the high school. Still others are enrolled in programs outside of the district. All are matched to the individual needs of the students.

The Lighthouse Program does not have grade level designation. Individual academic growth is monitored, and students are consistently observed moving at rates that exceed the typical 9 month journey. It is possible for an individual to fulfill the requirements for two years of mathematics in a given school year.

Service Learning is part of the Lighthouse Program experience. Students have provided service to the elderly, packaged foods for the needy, and led environmental initiatives.

Competitions are embedded in the program day. Students choose from an array of options that nourish critical and creative thinking. Currently Lighthouse students are competing in History Day, Inventors' Fair, Destination Imagination and others.

Minnetonka Exceptionally Gifted Program

952-401-5000

Grades 3, 4, 5

TBD

Design of the model:

The model would be implemented as a relatively small school program at one or two building sites, or in a separate facility. Depending on the number of students who enroll, this model might incorporate the use of two or three classrooms that are multi-aged and loosely based on the continuous progress model for schooling. Each classroom should be equipped with the same features as any other classroom within Minnetonka Public Schools. The following points are related to the design of the model:

- Two to three classrooms to begin (see expansion scenarios below) or one large classroom with a divider and activities room.
- Two knowledgeable teachers teaching students aged 8-11.*
- Flexible class schedule with emphasis on in-depth exploration of subject areas (see daily schedule).
- Technological access similar to regular classrooms.
- Classroom furniture same as the regular classroom.
- Extensive in-class library/media.
- Space designed for student investigations/explorations/experiments.

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- Existing curricular materials will be used along with supplemental materials that will need to be purchased such as Jr. Great Books and the College of William and Mary Curriculum.
- Location: Possible sites to include the DEC and one or more school buildings. Based on discussions with building principals the option of having two sites (both east and west) within the elementary buildings seems to be the most plausible solution.
- Classroom vision (See Teaching Methodology)
- Encore/Specials will be provided with chronological peers.
- Ideally students would continue to focus on foreign language acquisition: It is not the intention of the program to draw students away from the immersion program. However, those students that choose to enroll from the immersion program will have access to continued language instruction in either Spanish or Chinese. It is recommended that the program start slowly and grow over time based on its success and parental interest.

*It is recommended to start with this age group because students at this age are considered upper elementary or intermediate where the methodology and difficulty of the curriculum becomes more rigorous and increases in pace. It is recognized that an exceptionally gifted child ages six or seven is quite capable to participate in such a program, but the program must start where the greatest need as well as the greatest numbers exist. In addition, starting with this age group allows the program room to grow at either end of the age spectrum (see expansion details below).

Curriculum:

The curriculum will be thematically based and process oriented with in-depth studies that fit into a model of continuous learning focused on diverse interests and characterized by 'real world' problems, situations, and solutions. All themes of learning will be standards driven and interdisciplinary in nature.

Westwood Elementary

Prior Lake
 952-226-0400
 TBD
 Proposed for 2009-2010 for grades 3, 4, 5

Stillwater Magnet

Stillwater
 651-351-8340
 TBD
 To serve grades 4, 5, 6
