

Gifted Characteristics

- Advanced vocabulary
- Excellent memory
- Learns quickly
- Asks questions
- Critical thinker
- Passionate about certain subjects
- Intense sensitive/empathetic
- Likes older children or adults
- Needs to know “why?”
- Uses humor/understands sarcasm
- Enjoys challenges

Gifted Needs

Average ability is the 50th percentile. Students at the far right (gifted) need special education services to meet their unique learning needs not normally met in a regular classroom. Gifted students are in the 95th percentile and above compared to same-age peers. They make up 3 to 5 percent of the student population.

Differentiation for gifted learners can be addressed through changing the content, product, and/or process of their learning.

Gifted Testing

Gifted testing takes place three times a year for students in Pre-K- 8th grade. Consult with your child's school and campus gifted teacher for more information on test windows. Referrals for testing can be found on the WESD website www.wesdschools.org.

Once a student qualifies as gifted in one or more areas, he or she does not need to retest every year. Qualified gifted students receive gifted services through Project Potential, the GLC, or FLEX program.

Students who score close to qualification may be invited to join gifted classes as a temporary student until retesting the following school year.

Gifted Areas

Students need to score in the 95th percentile or higher in one of the three areas to be considered gifted. Qualification in more than one area is possible.

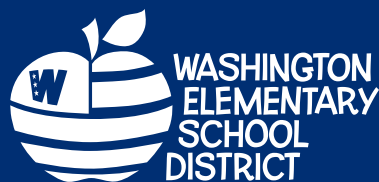
- The verbal section measures a child's ability to remember and transform sequences of English words, to understand them and to make inferences and judgments about them.
- The quantitative section measures a child's understanding of basic number concepts and relationships.
- The non-verbal section measures reasoning using pictures and geometric shapes. This section reduces the impact of language on the student's score.



In WESD, we believe all students deserve to learn something new everyday! Our gifted students possess great potential which must be supported academically and emotionally in their learning environment.

Definition of Gifted

The national definition of giftedness defines gifted students as performing in higher levels compared to others of the same age, experience, and environment in one or more domains. Gifted learners require modifications to their educational experiences to learn and realize their potential.



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WESD Gifted Programs

Project Potential

All 27 WESD elementary schools have the Project Potential Program. Gifted qualified students and "temporary students" who are close to qualification are pulled from their regular classroom twice a week to participate in enrichment activities with a gifted certified teacher. Possible areas of study:

- Think Law
- Novel Studies
- Engineering Challenges
- Project-based Learning
- Junior Great Books
- Primary Education
- Thinking Skills
- Critical Thinking Games and Challenges
- Social/Emotional lessons

For more information, contact:

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The Gifted Learning Center (GLC) for Kinder-6th Grade

High-ability gifted learners may apply to the GLC at Sahuaro Elementary. The GLC is a self-contained gifted program for students in grades K-6. Students learn with like-ability peers based on ability level as opposed to grade level. Classes are multi-age and focus on the needs and understandings of the individual. Students learn using authentic learning opportunities, including using Project-based Learning, under the supervision of experienced, gifted-endorsed teachers. The program and teachers focus on the social/emotional development and academic needs specific to gifted learners.

Gifted students must meet qualifications and apply for the program. Qualifications include: One score from a cognitive abilities test that is in the gifted range of the 95th percentile or above, a second score in the 90th percentile or higher, and a third score in the 80th percentile or higher. This ensures our gifted students learn with like-ability peers and are ready for fast-paced instruction and higher-level critical thinking.

If you are interested in the GLC, please complete the Google form application on the WESD Gifted website.



Flex Gifted Program 7th-8th Grade

The FLEX Program is a self-contained program for high-ability gifted 7th and 8th graders located at Cholla Middle School. Gifted middle schoolers have the ability to spend the majority of their day with like-ability peers learning from gifted-endorsed teachers. The junior high core subjects of Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies are taught using higher-level questioning and project-based learning. Students must qualify and apply for the FLEX Program in order to attend.

Qualifications include: One score from a cognitive abilities test that is in the gifted range of the 95th percentile or above, a second score in the 90th percentile or higher, and a third score in the 80th percentile or higher. This ensures our gifted students learn with like-ability peers and are ready for fast-paced instruction and higher-level critical thinking. If you are interested in the FLEX Program, please complete the Google form application on the WESD Gifted website.