



*Pioneering the Next Generation*

# School District of Sevastopol

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## **Gifted & Talented Program Overview 21'-22'**

We are thrilled to begin our second year of providing systemic, gifted and talented support to our identified student population for third through twelfth graders for the 2021-2022 school year! It's exciting and critical that this program continues to thrive and adapt as the students, school, and world around us changes. I hope this overview gives you a quick peak into what GATE looks like at Sevastopol right now.

### **Student Identification**

Students in the gifted and talented education program qualified based on criteria met for either three years or more successive years of high performance on the district Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Assessment and/or their score on the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). If a student has met the criteria once, they are in the program. The level of need and opportunity may change each year based on current classroom performance and desire.

### **Entrance Criteria:**

- An overall CogAT score at over above the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile.
- Three or more years of consecutive spring MAP testing data in ELA or Math at or above the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile.
- Students currently under and individualized education plan must score in the 83<sup>rd</sup> percentile or higher or have three successive years of performing at the 83<sup>rd</sup> percentile or high on the district's spring MAP assessment.

### **Differentiated Educational Plan**

A child's Differentiated Educational Plan (DEP), provides documentation of important test scores and feedback for gifted and talented education (GATE) qualification and planning. Upon qualifying, a DEP will be created. The parent, student, and teachers also provide feedback to help best understand the student. The classroom teams and gifted and talented coordinator use this as a working document. This is not a legal, binding document like an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and is not a requirement of the school district, but rather a tool.

### **Programming by School**

Within the gifted and talented program, there are three different schools that the program spans across. Each school building, presents similar and different opportunities to engage our GATE population. Regardless of the building, all teachers are made aware of who the identified students are. As we grow in the program together, it's important for you to know what that looks like. Giftedness is multidimensional. Students may be capable of superior performance or potential in one of the five areas: general intellect ability, specific academic area, creativity, artistic (visual/music), and/or leadership. Currently, Sevastopol's GATE program provides support in general intellect ability and specific academic areas. Building the artistic GATE program is an initiative this year and the work has already begun! In year two, the following is a brief look at what Sevastopol provides:

- Elementary School Programming (Grades 3-5): Gifted and talented services are provided through a combination of formats as determined by the classroom teacher and gifted and talented coordinator. The format includes small group, one-on-one, push-in, and/or pull-out services.
- Middle School Programming (Grades 6-8): Gifted and talented services will be provided during the child's academic and enrichment block beginning December 6th. At that time, all identified gifted and talented students will work with the coordinator. Each intervention and enrichment rotation (1-month) will provide a different learning opportunity. Prior to December 6<sup>th</sup>, services were provided during the child's resource extended period or eighth hour class. In January, the eighth graders are provided additional high school course planning assistance and guidance by the gifted and talented coordinator and school counselor.

- High School Programming (Grades 9-12): Services for our academically gifted high schoolers is primarily provided through advanced coursework and the process of planning for the future. Students work with the gifted and talented coordinator as well as school counselor to plan their four years of high school. This is done to determine areas where there is/can be advanced coursework and rigor to better position the student for future opportunities if they choose. Check points are put in place to review course and career planning.

*At each school, there are various clubs and activities that kids can join. Some may be offered during lunch, before school, after school, or on the weekends. Students and families can participate in them if they choose.*

### **Timeline of Services**

During the school year, there is a general timeline that has been established to keep students' needs and programming at the forefront. A general outline has been provided for you.

Push-in services refer to when the gifted and talented coordinator works directly in the classroom on the content being taught but at a different level or provides an alternate activity supportive of the classroom curriculum.

Pull-out services refer to when the gifted and talented coordinator pulls the identified student(s) and works with them outside of the classroom setting using specific gifted and talented curriculum.

### **General Programming Calendar:**

- September: All students remain in their classrooms to learn the expectations of the new grade level. It is important for students to feel comfortable in their new classroom(s) and build relationships with teachers and peers. This time is set aside to gather new data from the start of the school year, and to confirm strengths and identify new areas of strength. This month is also used to share prior data and differentiation about the identified students with teachers as well as work out schedules with teachers. Check-ins with high school teachers and students occur to see how advanced coursework is progressing and if adjustments need to be made.
- October-November: The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) is administered and program qualification is determined for new students. All pull-out and push-in services at the elementary and middle school level begin.
- December-January: Pull-out and push-in services continue to be provided based on need and data. Newly identified students will have an initial Differentiated Educational Plan created and services and opportunities will be put in place during this time. High schoolers will create and/or review their four-year plan to determine what passion and rigor they want to pursue. Identified eighth graders will begin engaging in the high school scheduling process, create a draft four-year plan, and start to get educated on what high school advanced opportunities exist if they choose.
- February-May: Pull-out and push-in services continue to be provided based on need and data. All pull-out and push-in services at the elementary and middle school level continue. Check-ins with high school teachers and students occur to see how advanced coursework is progressing and if adjustments need to be made.
- June-August: GATE program needs for the following school year are reviewed and evaluated.

It's great to be advocating and developing programming for the top 8% of our student population in grades 3-12 at Sevastopol!

Sincerely,

Brooke Tanck-*Gifted & Talented Coordinator*  
Melissa Marggraf-*Director of Pupil Services*