

MACC Description:

The District Middle Age Cluster Classes are designed for students of high ability who have been formally identified as gifted. Each class is designed to:

- Address the unique needs of gifted learners by integrating curricula in the four core subjects (English, Social Studies, Math and Science) allowing students to form connections in an **interdisciplinary inquiry based program**.
- Challenge and develop the depth and breadth of the student's **critical and creative thinking abilities**.
- **Build independence and responsibility for learning** with the appropriate amount of support by the teacher (developing self-directed learners)
- Provide a comprehensive program with a **focus on emotional, social, and cognitive development**;
- Enhance **self-esteem and social skills**
- Provide an opportunity to explore and expand on issues and actions that may benefit the **greater community**

Identifying **personal interests and individual goals** and demonstrating a **personal work ethic** are important aspects of the classroom experience. **Self knowledge** through reflection on individual learning style, the nature of excellence and group dynamics are integral parts of the curriculum.

Candidate Criteria:

Current grade 5, 6 and 7 students will be considered for the class based on problem solving skills, cognitive abilities, social and emotional development, and creative ability.

Criteria include:

- Formally Identified as Gifted (category P)
- Demonstrated or potential for fast paced learning
- Shows ability to focus on activities, likes complexity, is motivated to learn quickly & strong desire to be in this type of classroom setting
- Demonstrates a desire to learn advanced level material while covering grade level curriculum.