
*Middle School GATE/Hi-Cap
Parent Information Meeting*



MS Hi-Cap Team

- MS Hi-Cap Director, Mike Johnson
- Executive Secretary, Beth Stumetz
- CMS: Rhonda Howard, Specialist
Mike Johnson, Administrator
- CJMS: Laurie Tuiaea, Specialist
John Mancinelli, Administrator
- EMS: Doug Lane, Specialist
Marc' Nelson, Administrator

Program Information

- Program started in 2007-2008 school year
- Goals:
 - Bridge the gap between ES GATE and HS AP/Advanced courses
 - Provide an opportunity for higher-level thinking strategies, project-based learning, and critical inquiry, all of which add to the depth of the curriculum
- Neighborhood vs. Magnet
 - Comparable programs offered at all three Richland Middle Schools

Program Information

- Phase I: 2007-2008
 - Implement Advanced Science
 - Pilot Advanced Language Arts
 - Maintain current advanced Math offerings
- Phase II: 2008-2009
 - Implement Advanced Language Arts
 - Pilot Advanced Social Studies
 - Maintain advanced Math/Science offerings
- Phase III: 2009-2010
 - Implement Advanced Social Studies
 - Maintain advanced Math/Science/LA offerings

Allocation of Resources

- Curriculum
 - Science
 - Language Arts
 - Social Studies
- Training
- Collaboration Time

Entry Criteria

Level 1: RSD GATE Criteria

- Consistent with state guidelines for selection into Gifted programs
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress)
 - Reading $\geq 95^{\text{th}}$ percentile
 - Math $\geq 95^{\text{th}}$ percentile
- Otis-Lennon School Abilities Test $\geq 90^{\text{th}}$ percentile
- Students meeting Level 1 criteria will be offered full access to MS Hi-Cap classes (LA, Science, and Social Studies)

Entry Criteria

Level 2

- Same criteria as Level 1, but allowing for students within standard error on the OLSAT (about 3.6%)
- Students meeting Level 2 criteria will be offered full access to MS Hi-Cap classes (LA, Science, and Social Studies) on a space-available basis

Entry Criteria

Level 3: Open Seats

- After filling classroom seats with students meeting Level 1 or Level 2 criteria, the number of seats left at each school will be filled using subject-specific criteria
- Selection committee at each school will consist of: Hi-Cap Specialist, Administrator, Counselor
- Selections will be finalized in late August

Entry Criteria

Level 3: Advanced Language Arts/Social Studies

- **Step 1:** Students are rank-ordered based on the Spring MAP Reading scores.
- **Step 2:** Teacher recommendations will be solicited.
- **Step 3:** Other available information, including WASL scores, intelligence tests, grades, and parental input will be considered.
- **Step 4:** Students will be selected on a space-available basis.

Entry Criteria

Level 3: Advanced Science

- **Step 1:** Students are rank-ordered using a composite score from the Spring MAP.
6th Grade: Math and Reading only (no Science)
- **Step 2:** Teacher recommendations will be solicited.
- **Step 3:** Other available information, including WASL scores, intelligence tests, grades, and parental input will be considered.
- **Step 4:** Students will be selected on a space-available basis.

Qualifying

January GATE Testing

Students qualifying using MAP criteria will be offered opportunity to take Otis-Lennon

- January 13: Deadline for referrals for early testing
- January 16: Reading MAP, 1:30-3:00 (in each ES)
- January 23: Math MAP, 1:30-3:00 (in each ES)
- January 23-February 18: Intellectual testing (in each building)—parents will be notified by school counselor
- February 27: Student placement letters go out to parents

Qualifying

Spring MAP Testing

Students qualifying on MAP during normal testing window will be offered opportunity to take Otis-Lennon (if not previously tested)

- May 4-15: All 5th grade students take MAP Reading and Math assessments
- June 8-12: Intellectual testing (in middle school buildings)—parents will be notified by middle school Hi-Cap Specialist
- June 15-19: Student placement letters go out to parents

Qualifying

August Selection for Open Seats (Subject-Specific)

- May 4-15: All 5th grade students take MAP Reading and Math assessments
- August 10-31: Building Hi-Cap teams review class loads, student data and recommendations, and make placement decisions for open seats in all Hi-Cap classes (Process is ongoing due to enrolment fluctuations)
- August 17-31: Letters attached to student schedules regarding placement into Hi-Cap classes. Parents not wishing their student to be enrolled in one or more of the classes are asked to inform the building administrator responsible for Hi-Cap.

Individualized Learning Plan

Students qualifying using Level 1 criteria will be placed on an ILP

Honors Math Classes

Qualifying for Honors Math classes is done independently of the Hi-Cap process.

Grade 6: Pre-Algebra 1

-Requires 5th grade Spring MAP score of 235+, level 4 on the 4th grade WASL, and 5th grade teacher recommendation

Extra-Curricular Activities

Many activities are offered at each school that cater to the needs of our highest-achieving students, including:

- Math Team, Robotics, Knowledge Master, Future Cities, Destination Imagination, Science Fair, Student Publishing Opportunities, and more (opportunities will vary based on interest levels and leadership)
- Volunteers always needed! How can you help to support these programs?

Comments & Questions
