

Elementary
Full-Time Spectrum
Gifted/Talented Program

The purpose of this brochure is to acquaint administrators, teachers and parents with Davis School District's Full-Time Gifted/Talented Program. This program, called Elementary Full-Time Spectrum exists throughout the Davis School District at five elementary schools in grades three through six and currently serves 453 gifted/talented students throughout the district.

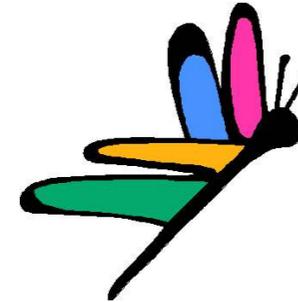
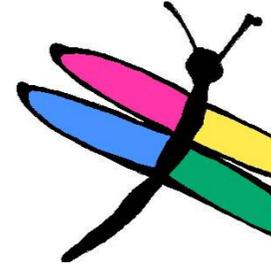
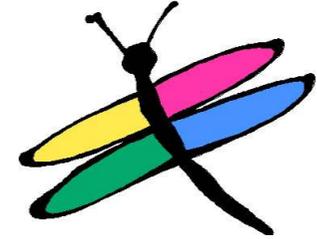
Davis District's mission statement reads, "In partnership with parents and communities, we will foster educational excellence in a safe and nurturing environment where all students can acquire the skills, knowledge, values, and commitment to lifelong learning necessary to contribute and adapt to our diverse and changing world. The mission of the Elementary Full-Time program enhances the district's dedication to "all" by being committed to helping gifted students achieve their highest potential in order to become life-long learners who will use their gifts and knowledge to benefit society."



Davis School District

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Full-Time Gifted & Talented Program



SPECTRUM

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Why have a Full-Time Gifted / Talented Program?

Many of our District's gifted and talented students spend their time in regular classrooms. Because of their academic abilities, these students may or may not be challenged. The full-time program is needed because:

- few teachers have had adequate training to differentiate for high ability students.
- research has shown these students need to spend time with their intellectual peers.

The Elementary Full-Time Spectrum Gifted/Talented Program is designed for students who consistently are:

- above average in their academic ability
- motivated to do more challenging work
- uniformly high on classroom assignments and/or tests.

This program provides accelerated and enriched curriculum designed to challenge these high ability learners.

Who are Davis District's Gifted and Talented students?

According to the Davis District Policy on Gifted and Talented, "Gifted and Talented students" means children and youth whose superior performance or potential for accomplishment requires a differentiated and challenging education program to meet their needs in any one or more of the following areas:

- creative, critical or productive thinking
- extraordinary ability in one or more academic disciplines
- visual and performing arts
- leadership
- overall academic ability

What do these students look like in the school setting?

Giftedness and talent are complex phenomena manifested through a variety of characteristics expressed in diverse and highly personal ways. The students in the Elementary Full-Time Spectrum program already know much of the curriculum taught at their grade level but their social and emotional development may be at their current grade level. Because of this, teachers are trained to both nurture and develop the cognitive or intellectual part of the child as well as attend to social and emotional needs the child may have. The Full-Time Spectrum program is designed for students who are motivated to learn, but teachers work hard to assist students who may have become "turned off" because their regular classroom work was too easy for them.

Learning Experiences

The Elementary Full-Time Spectrum Program empowers students to grow through academic and creative experiences and challenges. Learning experiences are carefully designed to provide a match between the curriculum to be taught and the needs of the student. Students master the District's regular curriculum often at a more rapid pace than in the regular classroom and then move on to more rigorous learning experiences. These experiences are more complex and are often related to global issues or problems.

Curriculum

Math and Language Arts are generally accelerated one grade level above that taught in the regular classroom. Adjustments are made for students who need radical acceleration or who may need some reteaching of a concept.

Science and Social Studies are based on grade level curriculum, but are extended to include more depth and complexity.

Art, Music, and PE are generally not differentiated and students may even share these areas with their grade level peers.

Enrichment Activities are also provided which enhance both the abilities and interests of the students. With help from parent volunteers, some of the schools provide foreign language experiences for students.

Teachers

All of the teachers in the program currently have or are finishing a **special university endorsement in Gifted/Talented Education**. Through this program, they learn about the characteristics of gifted children, instructional methods and materials to use with these students and how to nurture and understand their social and emotional needs.

Identification

All students in the district are eligible to apply for the program. Administrators and teachers are given information in the fall and are asked to share it with parents at SEP conferences. Information is also mailed to the homes of those students who score in the top 10% of our District on End of Level tests. Testing occurs January through March (selected times and dates) and is facilitated at the Full-Time Spectrum schools. Based on this assessment, parents will be notified as to whether or not their child qualifies for the program and about available openings. **Applications for the program are available at the office of each school.**

Locations

The Elementary Full-Time Spectrum Program is currently located at the following schools:

Centerville Ele.	(Centerville)	Grade 3-6
Valley View Ele.	(Bountiful)	Grades 3-6
Burton Ele.	(Kaysville)	Grades 3-6
Mountain View Ele.	(Layton)	Grades 3-6
Lakeside Ele.	(West Point)	Grades 3-6