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www.STEMCivics.org

STEMCivics District Gifted & Talented Program

Goals:

- To challenge honors students who demonstrate a need for curriculum beyond the rigors of the regular curriculum for their grade level.
- To provide an environment that encourages the development of critical thinking skills such as analysis, evaluation, synthesis, and complex problem solving strategies.
- To provide an environment that encourages divergent thinking and supports the development of originality, fluency, flexibility, and elaboration.
- To develop confidence in expressing ideas in discussions, debates, expository writing, and creative writing.
- To advance the process of inquiry through the application of skills in investigations of real-life problems and research.
- To provide students with opportunities to develop leadership skills through positive group interaction.
- To encourage a lifelong commitment to independent learning.

Procedures

Qualitative Criteria:

- Shows self-motivation in school and beyond;
- Consistently attends class on time;
- Demonstrates regular enthusiasm for the subject;
- Periodically uses school resources (The Writing Center, teacher-appointments);
- Often participates in the class's whole-class, group, and individual activities;
- Consistently submits work on time;
- Manages constructive criticism;
- Respects the learning environment;
- Takes initiative for her own improvement (in, for example, rewriting essays or completing test corrections)

Placement & Identification

Middle School: class placement and differentiation via Homework Genius (based on teacher recommendation, academic record, standardized test scores)

High School: class placement and differentiation (based on teacher recommendation, academic record, standardized test scores); Honors Environmental Science, Honors ELA 12, Honors Pre-Calc; college connections: dual enrollment, early college program, AP US

High School Course-Specific Placement Criteria:

- Honors Courses - Recommended "A"/ "B" average and teacher recommendation
- AP U.S. History (11-12) – Recommended "A" or "A-" in Modern U.S. History or a "B" or higher in Honors Modern U.S. History
- Dual Enrollment: placement criteria is based on the requirements of the partnering college/university

Identification Timeline

May 31: Teacher observations/recommendations & end of year benchmarks due

July 1: review test scores & send parent notifications (MS)

Oct 1: opportunity for mid-year evaluation and program entry (parent and/or teacher request)