



M.S.D. of Pike Township High Ability Program & Identification

Parent Information

For a copy of this Slide Presentation

go to: www.pike.k12.in.us

M.S.D. of Pike Township

High Ability Mission Statement

The High Ability Program of the Metropolitan School District of Pike Township seeks to provide our most academically talented students with developmentally appropriate, enriched and accelerated experiences to actively engage them in learning. The richly differentiated curriculum is well integrated and solidly based on tenets of critical thinking. The ability to think critically is imperative to prepare students to acquire the skills and the mindset to be life-long learners and to accept the challenges and the responsibilities of a global society.

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The Indiana Code defines a student with high abilities as one who:

- performs at, or shows the potential for performing at, an outstanding level of accomplishment when compared to other students of the same age, experience, or environment
- is characterized by exceptional gifts, talents, motivation, or interests

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HA Characteristics

Learns new things quickly

Grasps math concepts easily

Has extensive vocabulary; background knowledge

Grasps big-picture concepts, connections

Intuitive

Thinks creatively

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HA Characteristics

Great sense of humor

Curious

Variety of Friends

Observant

Complex games, fantasy, nonfiction

Perfectionist

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- **The importance of the parent role**
 - Support your child
 - Give your child time
 - Encourage their individuality
 - Don't expect too much – home responsibilities should fit their chronological age not mental age
 - Provide consistent rules and expectations
 - Encourage questions, experiments and risk taking
 - Be a good role-model



M.S.D. of Pike Township High Ability Program Locations

- *Elementary*
 - Guion Creek, Eagle Creek ,
Fishback Creek- Grades 1-5
- *Middle*
 - Guion Creek, Lincoln, New
Augusta – Gr. 6-8



M.S.D. of Pike Township High Ability Program Locations

- **High School**
 - **Pike High School**
 - **Grade 9 Honors**
 - **Grades 10 Honors and AP**
 - **Grades 11 and 12 AP, Dual Credit, IB**

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High Ability Program Structure K-5

Self -Contained Classroom

- Grades 1-5 at magnet sites (GCES, ECES, and FCPA)
- Differentiated and accelerated curriculum in Language Arts and Math
- Grade level Science and Social Studies with emphasis on critical thinking, application, and inquiry
- Teachers with HA Licensure

Cluster Classroom

- For students who do not qualify for the HA self-contained program or who choose to stay in their home school
- Offers instruction in peer groups of similar ability
- Challenges and enriches students needing more rigor
- Typically 3-5 cluster students in a classroom

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High Ability Program Structure 6-8

Grade 6

- Sixth grade academy design typically assigns students for all core courses (Reading/Writing, Math/Science, Social Studies)
- Students may also be assigned to specific courses based on individual strengths and performance.

Grade 7/8

- Course selection based on student strengths and performance
- Must meet course criteria
 - Grades
 - Assessment
 - Teacher recommendation
- Must maintain A/B in high school courses (Algebra, Geometry, Spanish)

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High Ability Program Structure 6-8 (cont.)

- Due to a change with the College Board Organization, the *Pre-AP trademark can no longer be used* to designate anything other than the College Board Pre-AP courses.
- As a result, Pike has removed the Pre-AP designation to identify its high ability courses at the middle school.
- Middle School High Ability Program is now referred to as HONORS Program (High Ability Opportunities to Nourish and Open Roads for Scholars in High School)

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High Ability Program

Identification



- CogAT Screener and NWEA assessment scores are used to identify a talent pool of students (~20%)
- Achievement tests, cognitive skills tests, teacher rating, and parent rating (~10%)
- Follow a Case Study Format – team of counselors and administrators use DOE guidance, components of giftedness, and school performance to make a decision on each individual child.

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High Ability Program

Testing Timeline Grades K-7

- December/January - Universal Screening (CogAT, NWEA)
- January - Student selection for further testing
- January - Parent Notification; Teacher & Parent SIGS forms
- February/March - Selected student testing (CogAT, NWEA) and qualitative information (teacher/parent scales) gathered to identify students for HA
- April - Case Study Identification Process
- May - Parents notified by letter

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High Ability Program

Curriculum Enhancements

- Ongoing Professional Development
 - AP/IB, Agile Mind, District Specialists, IAG, ElevatED, Social and Emotional Needs of High Ability Learners
 - Inquiry projects – critical thinking (Depth of Knowledge)
- Research Model
- Interdisciplinary Curriculum Units
- College and Career-ready Indiana Academic Standards in Mathematics & English Language Arts
- Use of Process Standards for Mathematics

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High Ability Program

Ongoing Evaluation

- Annually review the status of high ability programming and make recommendations for program adjustments
 - Curriculum development and revisions
 - Identification technical assistance and analysis
 - Identification process
 - Identification assessments
 - Equitable access

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High Ability Program

High School Offerings

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International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme



Students study concurrently:

- three subjects at higher level (240 hours each).
- three subjects at standard level (150 hours each).
- all three parts of the core.

IB learners strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Open-minded
- Knowledgeable
- Caring
- Thinkers
- Risk-takers
- Communicators
- Balanced
- Principled
- Reflective

PHS IB Classes:

- **Group 1** – Language and Literature (HL)
 - **Group 2** – French, German, and Spanish (SL level)
 - **Group 3** - History
 - **Group 4** – Biology
 - **Group 5** - Mathematics standard level
 - **Group 6** – Theatre, Visual Arts and Music
- ** Students can also pick a course from any of the previous groups: Chemistry, Environmental Systems & Societies, Physics, Psychology, or Sports/Exercise/Health Science

Advance Placement (AP) Courses

- PHS offers 28 College Board approved A.P. courses (approved syllabus and trained teacher)
- Classes can be taken independently of each other
- Exams (taken in May and fee is \$95/test)
- College Credit
 - In State/Public - Credit Hours may be awarded for a 3 or higher on exams at most public post-secondary schools.
 - Out of State/Private – 4 or higher
 - PHS is an AP Honor Roll School

Dual Credit (DC) at PHS

- Allows students to earn both college and high school credit
- Partnerships with IU, Ivy Tech, IUPUI, Vincennes
- Some colleges require certain test requirements (PSAT, SAT, ACT, Accuplacer), grade point averages (GPA), grade levels and/or fees—which if any, are significantly reduced from the university's on-campus fee.
- Include both academic courses and Career Center courses

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**High Ability Handbook is located on the
MSD of Pike Township Website**

<http://www.pike.k12.in.us/Content/high-ability->

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