

# Extended Learning Programs

ELP Office: (801) 578-8573

[www.slcschools.org/departments/extended-learning-program-elp](http://www.slcschools.org/departments/extended-learning-program-elp)



## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

As the new Supervisor of K-12 Extended Learning Programs, I would like to welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year. I am new to Salt Lake City School District and am looking forward to becoming familiar with each of the Extended Learning Programs and exploring ways our programs can better serve the students and families in our district. Maggie Nickerson is new to the ELP department and works as the administrative assistant. She is delightful to work with and can find the answer to most any question you might have related to ELP. We are fortunate to have Lucy Jacob-Nichols as our department Psychologist and Brittany Dimick who is our data specialist. As a department, we look forward to serving you this year.

–Allesen Peck

## A New Role for ELP

In the past, the term ELP has been used to reference the district's gifted and talented programs. However, the scope of the ELP Department has been expanded this year to also include the high school Advanced Placement programs, the International Baccalaureate programs as well as the Curriculum and Assessment programs located at Ensign and Hawthorne Elementary and Clayton Middle School. Due to this change, the gifted and talented programs will no longer be referred to as ELP.

The new names for these two programs will be shared in the near future. With this expansion of programs in the ELP Department, we would like to use the newsletter to highlight what is happening in the various Extended Learning Programs across the district. Thank you to those teachers who have agreed to contribute articles to the newsletter each quarter.

## Upcoming Events

### Parent Information Meetings Regarding the Gifted Education Program

#### Tuesday, September 28, 2021

- Room 112, District Offices
- For Parents of Students in Grades 1-5
- 6:00-7:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday, September 29, 2021

- Room 112, District Offices
- For Parents of Students in Grades 6-7
- 6:00-7:30 p.m.

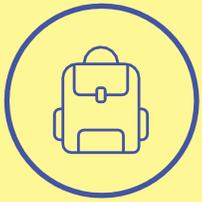


#### Tuesday, October 5, 2021

- Edison Elementary School
- For Parents of Students in Grades 1-7
- 6:00-7:30
- Presentation will be in Spanish

#### Wednesday, January 12, 2022

- Room 112, District Offices
- For Parents of PreK-K Students
- 6:00-7:30 p.m.



# Testing for Gifted and Talented Programs

**Gifted and Talented Magnet Program:** The application window is now open for parents who wish to have their 1-7 grade child evaluated for placement in the gifted and talented magnet program for the 2022-2023 school year. A link to the application form was emailed out to all families and can also be accessed on the District web page under the ELP Department. The window will remain open until October 15, 2021. Testing will take place during the month of November, and testing results will be mailed to homes in mid-December.

**Neighborhood Gifted and Talented Program:** All 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students along with 6<sup>th</sup> grade students new to the district are currently being screened for participation in the Neighborhood Gifted and Talented Program. Parents need not apply to have their child assessed for this program. Assessment results will be sent home mid-September. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your school's gifted and talented teacher or the ELP office.

## ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

**Whittier Wolves:** Here at Whittier, the GT classes are busy working to create collaborative groups of kids who care about each other and want to learn. After a difficult year of in-person and online learning, we are ready to work together and become even better! We have a new school administrator, Dr. Bri Deleon, and we are very excited about the energy, enthusiasm, and insight she brings to Whittier.

**Ensign Eagles:** All of the Ensign C&A classes meet each Friday. At the beginning of the year, we work on building community with our C&A buddies through Kagen Structures and "Get To Know You" games. When our community foundation feels solid, we break into smaller mixed grade level groups to work on projects. It is always fun to get together and practice various roles within the learning community. It is very exciting to see the "littles" running the groups as the "middles" and "biggs" guide them.

**Hawthorn Hawks:** Caroleen Hunt is joining our faculty this year from North Carolina. Ms. Hunt previously taught in both SLC and Jordan School Districts. Her favorite numbers are eleven and seventeen. The number eleven will never change because she raised eleven children, but the number seventeen will grow by one when her next grandchild is born! In addition to spending time with family, Ms. Hunt enjoys travel, hiking, home renovation, podcasts, and audiobooks, sewing and pickleball. She is enthusiastically looking forward to the educational journey this year with her fifth-grade students!

**Hawthorne C&A:** No David! The students in room 5, Coach Ross's class, have been learning about the Performance Results through picture books! We have analyzed David, the main character in [David Goes to School](#), which has led us to LONG discussions about how we should be Contributors to our Community. We have discussed his traits and created fun artwork to help reinforce our positive school behaviors. It has been such a fun way to start the year and learn our classroom rules!



### Emerson Eagles:

Emerson had a successful 2020-2021 school year! Ms. Morey's class focused on expanding her student's awareness of their cultural roots and the importance of honoring the culture of their classmates. Ms. Pizarro's students enjoyed learning in both languages through singing and dancing! In Ms. Oland-Wong's class, students were busy completing and presenting book reports in a variety of genres. Mr. Dadok's student took part in Math Olympiads and many challenging math projects. Ms. Borell's students presented reader's theater in Spanish and Ms. Jensen's students were able to participate in debate. Congratulations to Bianka C. and Kourtney J. for winning medals in the first Virtual State debate!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Northwest Warriors:** Northwest students are excited to be back and are ready to learn! In Science, students will be discovering why a watermelon explodes when dropped from the roof of the school and why an orange does not. This will lead students to discover what influences potential and kinetic energy. Using this newfound knowledge, they will explain a phenomenon about craters on the moon! In Language Arts, students are reading a novel by one of the best authors for teenagers, Jason Reynolds. Students are collaboratively working on argument writing and participating in discussions about courage, identity and culture. In Math students will be learning about the the Real Number System and completing the biggest unit of the year, Linear Relationships. Students will be incorporating some fun and exciting activities into learning these topics as well as learning how to use Desmos in math. Northwest Warriors are prepared to grow and excel this year!

**Hillside Huskies:** It is the beginning of the year, and here at Hillside the Language Arts Department is looking forward to an engaging and challenging year with our students. Mr. Howard's 8<sup>th</sup> grade is exploring Greek Myths and Shakespeare. Students will demonstrate mastery of the conventions of writing internal and external dialogue in an original myth and will cite evidence in a crime scene report of the murder of King Duncan in the mock trial of Macbeth. Ms. Trefethen's 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes will contemplate the concept of civil disobedience as a catalyst of political change. Students will read primary texts involving Susan B. Anthony, current news articles and memoirs and consider how our personal goals can be aligned with civic duty. Ms. Nguyen's 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be researching the United Nations' Global Goals for Sustainable Development, construct local solutions, and write implementation plans via the Nat Geo Inquiry process to send to city and state officials.

## National Association for Gifted Children

Just a few weeks ago, the NAGC hosted its first National Symposium on Equity for Black and Brown Students. A number of Salt Lake City School District teachers and administrators were able to participate in this symposium. The equitable identification of students participating in gifted and talented programs has been a discussion point in the field of education for over 30 years. This is also the month we are busy testing fourth and fifth grade students for possible placement in their neighborhood gifted and talented programs. As neighborhood GT teachers, we rededicate ourselves, now more than ever, to working toward more inclusive identification procedures. We are committed to participating in the ongoing conversation focused on ways to find high ability students in under-represented populations across our district and engage them in learning activities that will develop their academic talents and potential.

–Becky Chamberlain  
Neighborhood GT Teacher



## HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Highland Rams:** The IB program at Highland High is growing. We currently have 40 students in the IB diploma track. In the next couple of years, we expect this number to grow. We are also excited to be a part of encouraging more students from all Salt Lake District middle schools to start building their thinking, reading and writing skills so that they will be prepared to consider this rewarding and challenging program. If you have questions about the Highland IB program, please email Kyle Bracken, the IB coordinator at Highland High.

**West High Panthers:** Welcome back, Panthers! It is great to see the halls filled with students. There's a special energy that comes with a full building that we've been missing. We never thought we'd be living through a global pandemic, and there are times where all that needs to be accomplished can be overwhelming and daunting. I'm often reminded of something Dr. Wright said at last year's graduation ceremony – be undaunted. It's become my moto for the coming school year. Be undaunted. Be bold. Be brave. We don't know what challenges the year to come will bring, but we do know that we belong to a strong Panther family that looks out for each other and supports each other. If you have any questions about the West IB Program, please email Kelly Boren, the IB coordinator at West High. [Kelly.boren@slcschools.org](mailto:Kelly.boren@slcschools.org).

### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. The program aims to:

- Provide rigorous and broad-based curricula and assessments
- Maintain high academic standards common to schools worldwide
- Allow students to develop individual talents
- Foster critical and compassionate thinking
- Open the window from the classroom to the outside world
- Foster a lifelong interest in learning, as well as informed and responsible citizenship
- Promote international understanding and a respect for the variety of cultures
- Facilitate university entrance around the world

Students who do well in the IB program are highly motivated to pursue an academically challenging and stimulating program of study. They are prepared to make a serious commitment to achieve academic excellence. If your student enjoys challenging curriculum, is passionate about reading, loves to learn, enjoys Socratic discussions, has a good memory, and shows passion in an area of interest, this may be an appropriate program. Students have the opportunity to earn college credit through participation in the IB program.