



Welcome to York School District One's Parent Orientation for MERIT Students

2022-2023

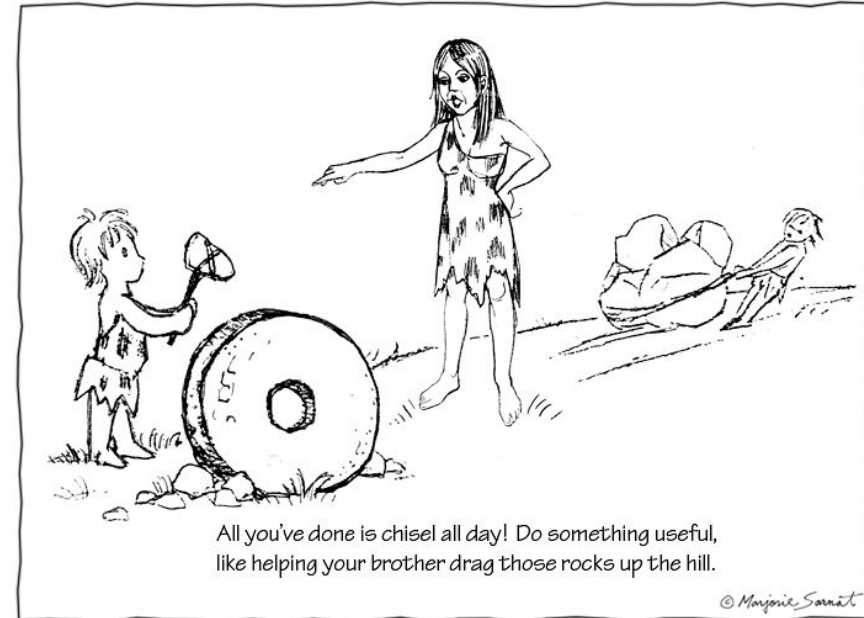


Why Gifted & Talented Instruction

Gifted and talented students possess learning characteristics and needs that differ from those of their chronological peers.

They typically learn faster, desire greater depth of content, and concentrate on tasks longer.

They are more curious and prefer solving more complex problems than their chronological peers.



These differences call for challenging educational opportunities in which gifted and talented students can learn with and from intellectual peers. Special programming and services are essential in order for gifted and talented students to maximize their potential.

What does MERIT stand for?

- ✓ Meaningful
- ✓ Educational
- ✓ Resources for the
- ✓ Intellectually
- ✓ Talented



YSD1 Programming Models

Grade 2

Brain Boosters

Grades 3 – 4 (All Elementary)

Pull-out Class Model

½ Day for 3rd grade

Full Day for 4th

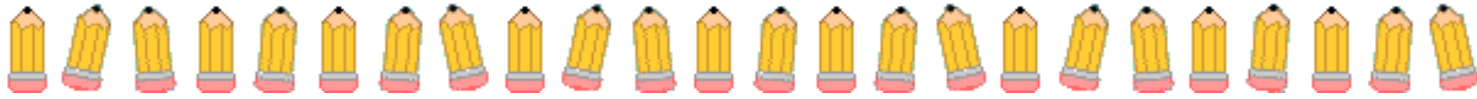
Grades 5 – 8 (HG-S, YIS & YMS)

Special Class Model

CHARACTERISTICS OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

- ✓ Average to poor in arithmetic computations, spelling, or handwriting
- ✓ Capable of deep concentration and persistence when interested
- ✓ Varied interests and curiosity
- ✓ Creative, playful, imaginative, or original
- ✓ Learns rapidly and easily
- ✓ High level of verbal ability
- ✓ May be lopsided intellectually
- ✓ Above average reasoning ability
- ✓ Great sense of humor
- ✓ Very sensitive

MERIT Qualifications and Expectations



- ✓ Students qualify by testing at the 94th percentile or higher on achievement tests and 93rd percentile or higher on ability tests. If you would like more information about your child's scores, please make an appointment with your child's MERIT teacher.
- ✓ Students are highly encouraged to keep their scores at these levels when taking other state tests and MAP. If you have questions about this, please see your child's MERIT teacher.

Elementary MERIT Schedule

- ✓ The MERIT pull out classes will begin the week of August 22nd
- ✓ Children receive instruction once a week in the MERIT pull out setting.
 - ✓ 4th grade students will be served a full day
 - ✓ 3rd grade students will be served a half day.

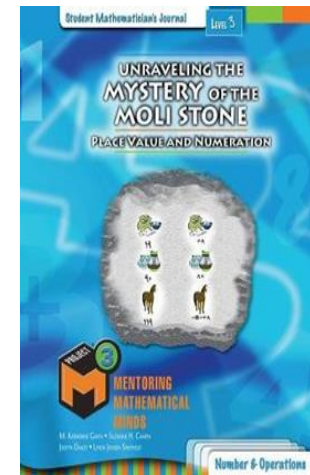
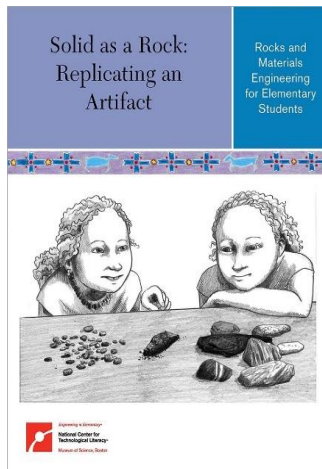
Ms. Colyer – HGSES every day

Ms. Merrell – JES Monday, Tuesday & CBES Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday

Ms. Parker – HCJES & HSES Monday, HSES Tuesday & Wednesday,
HCJES Thursday, Friday

Elementary Units of Study

- ✓ Science: STEM Unit: Solid as a Rock: Replicating an Artifact
- ✓ Math Unit: Mentoring Mathematical Minds – Unraveling the Mystery of the Moli Stone
- ✓ Research: Independent Study



Elementary MERIT

- ✓ The first hour is dedicated to critical and creative thinking. This includes activities such as logic puzzles, patterns, deducibles, wuzzles, analogies, etc.
- ✓ The remainder of the day is dedicated to unit work such as the science unit, math unit, and independent study.
- ✓ Class is usually ended by journal writing, exit slips, etc.

Grades 5 and 6 Units of Study at HGES

- ✓ 5th and 6th grade students participate in personalized learning experiences to enrich their mathematical and reading skills.
- ✓ A variety of resources are used as a tool to provide students with rigorous curricular experiences, including, but not limited to:
 - ✓ Khan Academy
 - ✓ Research Projects



5th & 6th Grade MERIT

YIS

5th Grade Team: D. Mann, J. Odom, A. Pettus

5th Grade Team: D. Farris, M. Mitchell

5th Grade Team: K. White, K. Taylor, B. Willis

6th Grade Team: S. Aldridge, J. Bennett, L. Vaughn

6th Grade Team: K. Blanton, L. Smithson, K. McCarroll, T. Nyegaard

6th Grade Team: A. Gochel, A. Matras, T. Norris, D. Idehenre

HGSES

5th Grade Math: K. Blackwell, N. Colyer

5th Grade ELA: N. Ashe, N. Colyer

6th Grade Math: L. Long, N. Colyer

6th Grade ELA: K. Howe, N. Colyer

YIS 5th & 6th Grade Structure

- ✓ MERIT students at the Intermediate School are served in a special class model. This means they are placed in a class with other GT identified students. These students stay together as a class for the entire school day.
- ✓ Students receive instruction by a Gifted and Talented Endorsed teacher in Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, and/or Science.

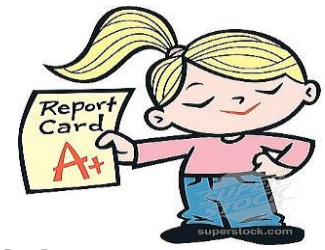
YIS 5th & 6th Grade Structure

- ✓ Children receive differentiated instruction daily that includes
 - ✓ strategies to allow for student interaction and discussion
 - ✓ the use of technology to enhance critical thinking
 - ✓ increased rigor in the classroom that is effective for gifted learners.
- ✓ Accelerated pace, rigorous resources and higher learning expectations
- ✓ Modified activities to meet needs and abilities of students

How will I know what my child is doing in MERIT?



- ✓ Student Work
- ✓ Calendars
- ✓ Parent Conferences
- ✓ Report Cards
- ✓ Phone Calls
- ✓ E-mails
- ✓ Remind



Elementary Grading System

MERIT work does not reflect the standard grading system of A through F. We follow the district's standards based grading system.

E – Exceeds

P – Proficient

NY – Not Yet

U – Unsatisfactory

Please remember as they move into 5th and 6th grade at YIS all students will receive letter grades in all subject areas.

PROBATION

- ✓ What is it?
- ✓ When are students placed on probation?



Field Trips



The Schiele Museum of Natural History and Planetarium Gastonia, North Carolina

- ✓ All Elementary 3rd and 4th grade MERIT students
- ✓ (Date TBA for your child's school later)
- ✓ Cost to be determined



Camp Thunderbird



4th Grade

Dates: March 2-3, 2023

Cost: Cost to be determined



Questions

If you have any questions throughout the school year, please contact your child's MERIT teacher at school in order to set up a time to meet.



District Office Contact Information

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