Herricks UFSD *Enrichment for All* Gemini update

Presentation to the Herricks Board of Education

December 9, 2021

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Agenda
Enrichment for All (K-8)

- How Gemini supports broader Herricks strategic mission
- Survey data
- Update on K-5; 4-5; 6-7 program enhancements
- Gemini identification changes
  - Measures
  - Process
  - Timeline
- Next steps

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Herricks Portrait of a Graduate 6 Cs

The Enrichment for All initiative (K-8) seeks to engage all students through three program types: Type I in all classrooms for grades K-5; Type II through the Gemini program in grades 4 and 5; and Type III through the Gemini² in grades 6 and 7. The Herricks Gemini and Gemini² programs are specifically targeted to meet the needs of gifted students by providing enrichment beyond the regular classroom, using teachers as mentors and facilitators to support their exceptional abilities and to foster independent study.

The Gemini and Gemini² programs will focus on higher level thinking skills and be connected to the 6 Cs:

- Communication
- Confidence
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Innovation
- Compassion
- Collaboration

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Survey Results on neighboring districts' gifted program & processes:

A 9 question survey was distributed to about **52** school districts on Long Island to garner input on how our neighboring school districts identify and serve gifted & talented students. There was a 71% response rate. ***The results confirm that the modifications we are proposing aligns with many districts in Nassau County:***

- Use of at least one standardized ability measure and teacher and/or parent rating scales for identification in a *multi step process*
- Pull out model is the predominant model used for serving GT (upper elementary)
- All surveyed districts serve upper elementary students and over 1/3 serve middle school
- Most districts do not have rolling admissions

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Gifted Programs (37 responses)

65%

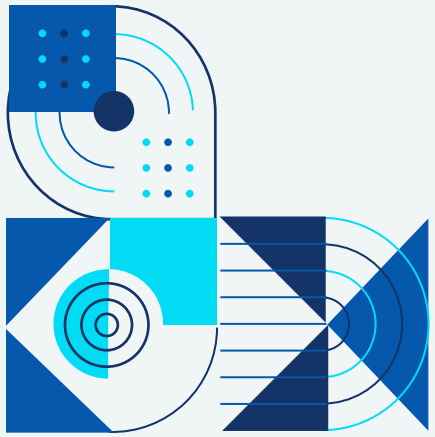
currently have a gifted program

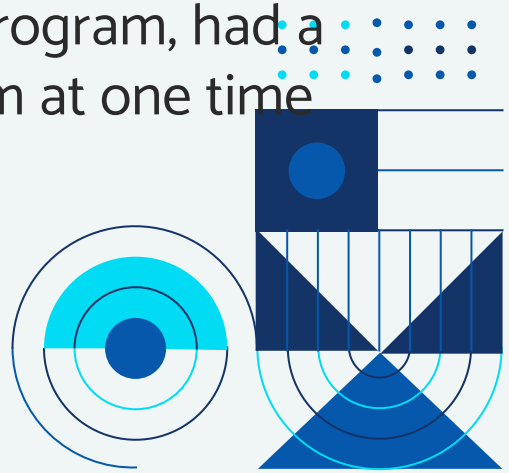
35%

do not currently have a gifted program

61.5%

of those districts that do not currently have a gifted program, had a program at one time





SLIDESMANIA.COM

Elementary Programs (of the 24 districts with a program)

46%

have a gifted program in grades 3-5(6)

46%

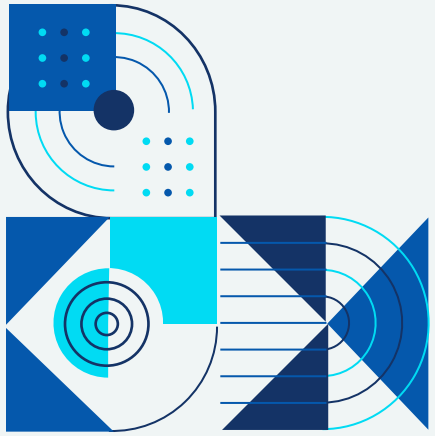
have a gifted program in grades 4-5(6)

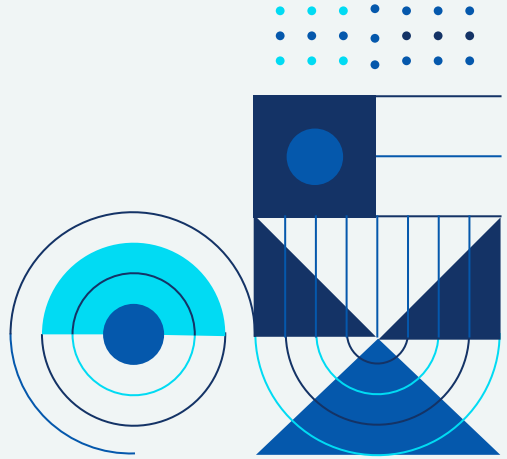
4%

have a gifted program in grades 5-6

4%

have a K-5 school wide enrichment program





SLIDESMANIA.COM

Middle School Programs (of the 24 districts with a program)

38%

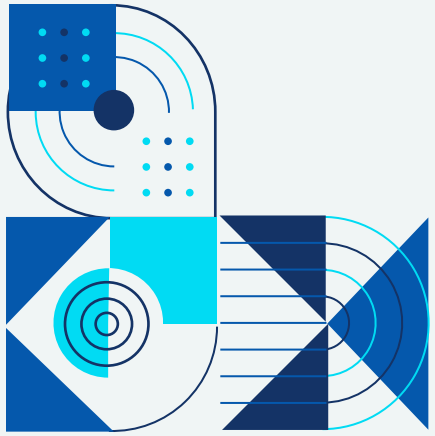
have a gifted program in middle school grade 6

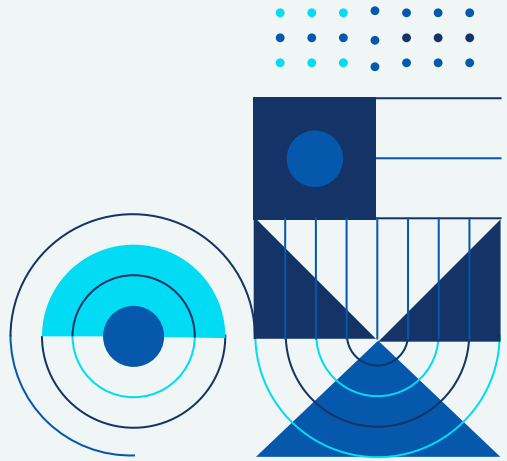
21%

have a gifted program in middle school grade 7

42%

do not have a program at the middle school

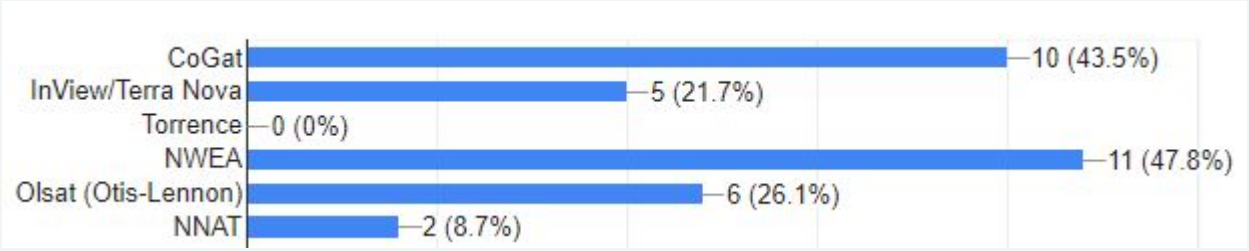


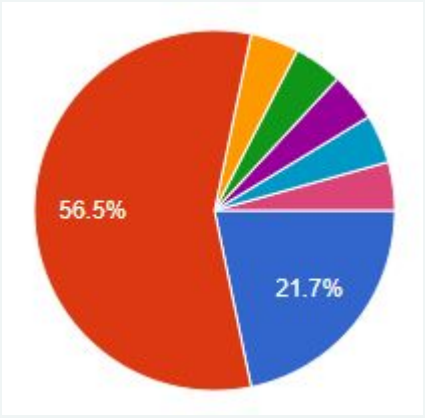


SLIDESMANIA.COM

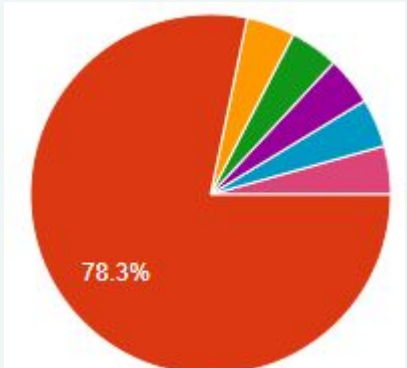
Survey Results (of the 24 districts with a program)

Which test(s) do you use for admission into the program?

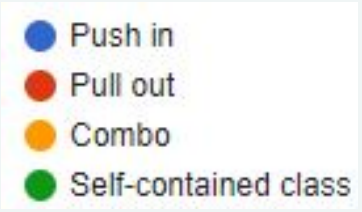




Do you have rolling admission into the program?

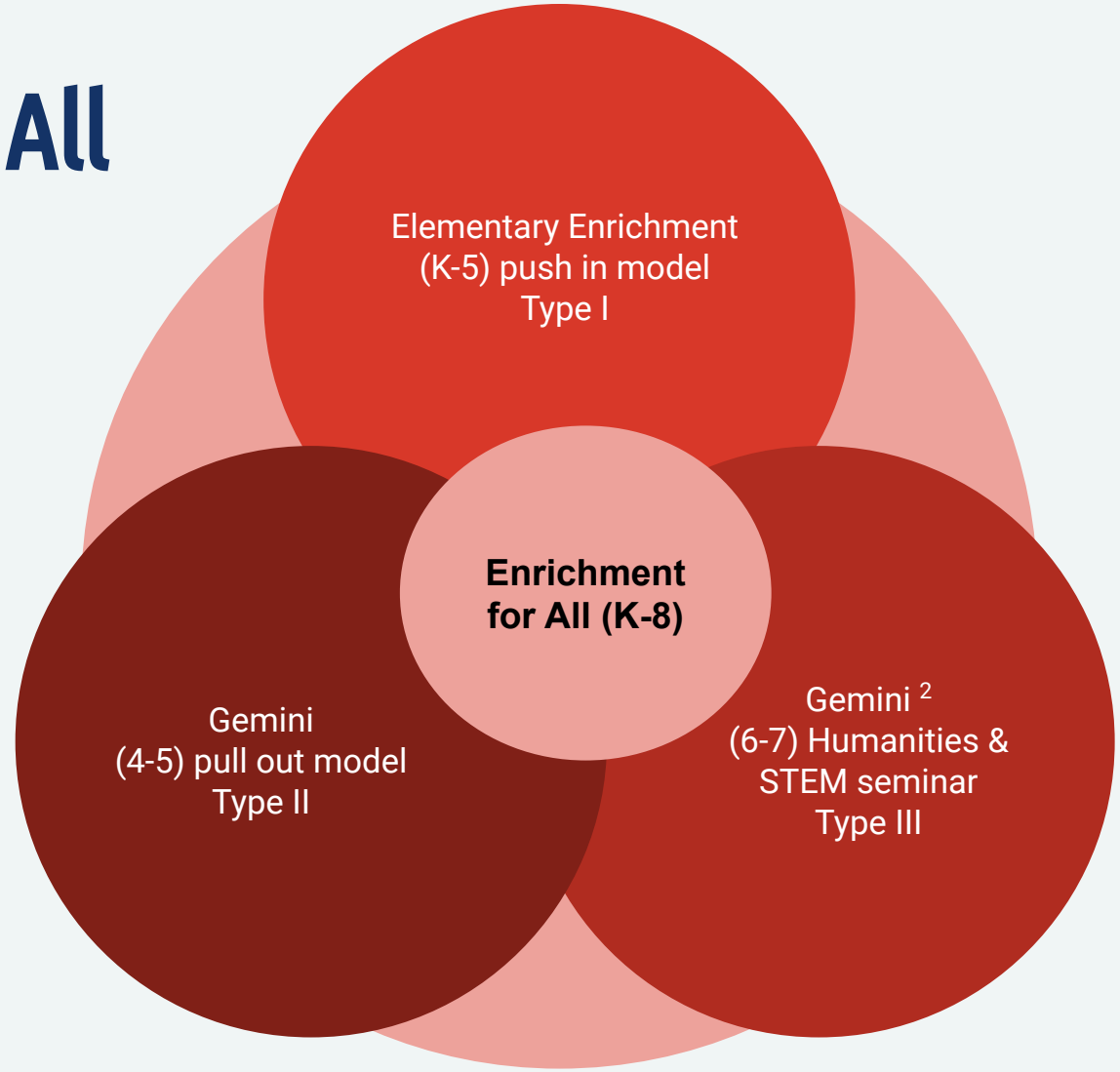


What is primary model of delivery?



SLIDESMANIA.COM

Enrichment for All (K-8)



SLIDESMANIA.COM

Enrichment for All (K-8)

Type I | Type II | Type III

Elementary Enrichment (K-5)

PLTW + non-science opportunities build classroom teachers' capacity for differentiation.

Gemini: Enrichment Clusters (grades 4 & 5)

Gemini (pull out)
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or other targeted project based units of study based on students choice, abilities, skills, and interests

Gemini$^{2:}$ In-Depth Investigations Through Interdisciplinary Seminars (grades 6-7)

6th grade: Humanities
7th grade: STEM

*8th grade: Regents level courses and electives

SLIDESMANIA.COM

New Vision for the Role of the Gemini Teacher (K-5)

Support K-5 Enrichment for All through:

- **Collaboration** with classroom teachers to develop **Critical Thinking** opportunities within the classroom
- Professional development workshops for classroom teachers to explore **Creative Innovation** within the classroom
- **Communication** with families regarding students' enrichment experiences
- Targeted enrichment for identified Gemini students (Type II)

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Type I: *Elementary Enrichment K-5*

The following are the PLTW Units that are implemented by the Gemini Teacher in each Elementary School.

- **Kindergarten**- Structure and Function Human Body
- **First Grade-** Designs Inspired By Nature
- **Second Grade**- Living Things: Diversity of Life
- **Third Grade**- Variation of Traits
- **Fourth Grade**- Energy Collisions
- **Fifth Grade**- Infection Detection

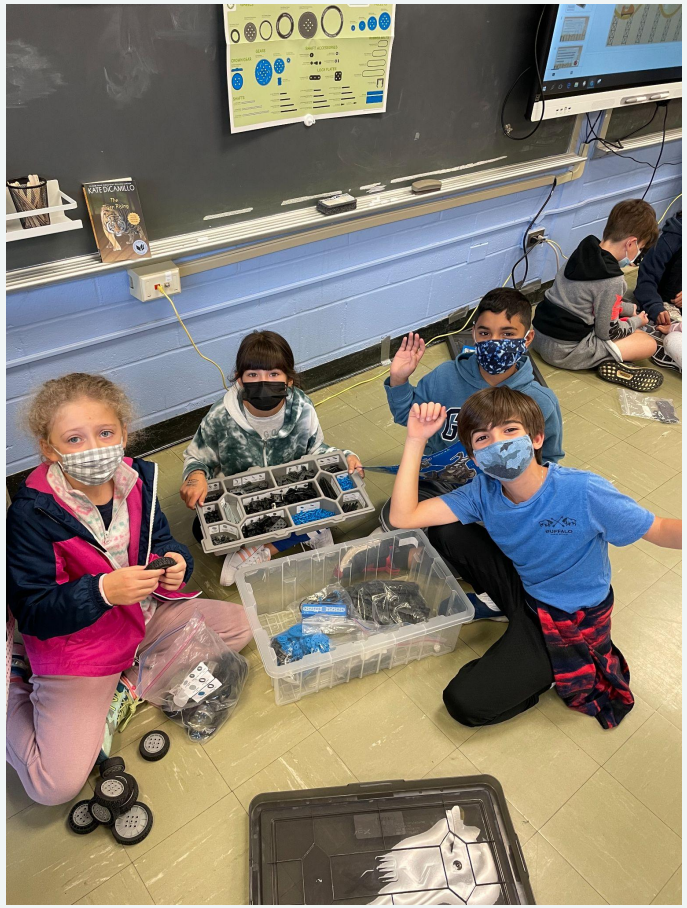
* A letter is sent home to families outlining the enrichment unit. Families are also provided with activities and questions they can ask their child in order to build a home-school connection.

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Type I: Elementary Enrichment

K-2, STRIVE, and Language Immersion learning all about how to keep our teeth germ free!

4th Grade students getting ready to build their vehicle and learn all about collisions!



5th Grade students becoming infection detectives by understanding all the parts of our immune system

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Gemini Mission Statement Type II

The Herricks Gemini Program enhances the educational experiences of individual students as learners. Our goal is to foster creativity and critical, innovative thinking in the development of self-directed and meaningful citizens in an ever changing global society.

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Revised Gemini Program Goals: Grades 4-7

- To develop creative problem-solving and divergent thinking skills
- To develop social skills of relating to others and coping effectively in social contexts
- To develop metacognitive skills that foster independent and self-directed learning
- To provide for the mastery of academic skills and content at a pace and depth appropriate to the capacity of each Gemini student.

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Type II: Gemini (grades 4-5)
Current Fourth Grade Gemini Units

Grade 4: Anchored in the 6Cs of Education - 21st Century Learning Skills

Ongoing Current Events Conversations

Unit 1: Self Awareness Study
Unit 2: Habits of Mind
Unit 3: 21st Century Learning Space Design Project
Unit 4: Convergent vs Divergent Thinking
Unit 5: Culture
Unit 6: Global Economics
Unit 7: Quality Education
Unit 8: Food Sustainability

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Type II: Gemini (grades 4-5)
Current Fifth Grade Gemini Units

Grade 5: Anchored in the United Nations Sustainability Goals

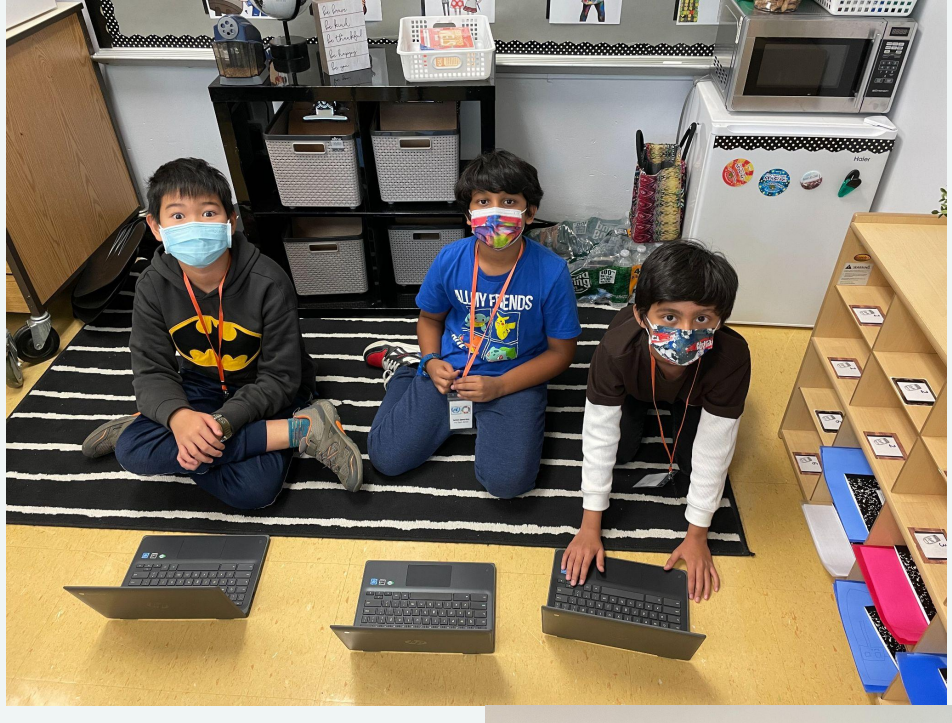
Ongoing Current Events Conversations

Unit 1: Self Awareness Study/Habits of Mind
Unit 2: Infection Detection Research
Unit 3: Sustainable Communities (developed by Smithsonian Science Education Center)
Unit 4: Climate Action
Unit 5: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
Unit 6: Life Underwater
Unit 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
Unit 8: Global Action Projects

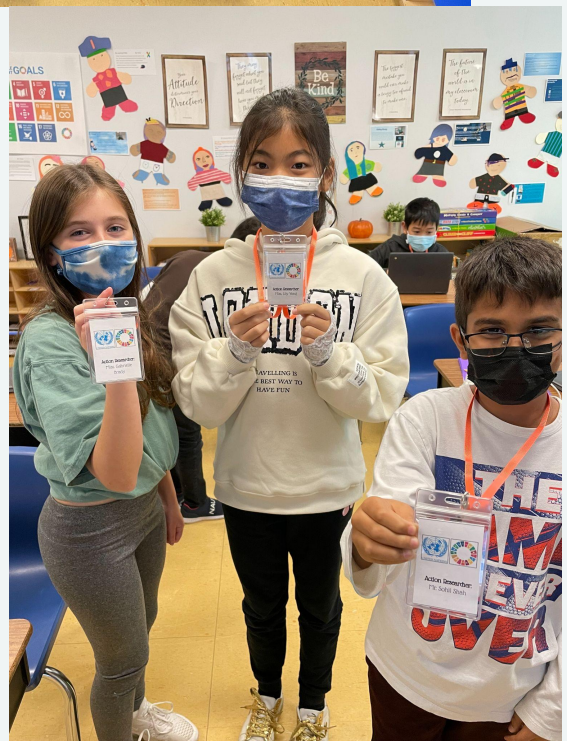
SLIDESMANIA.COM

Gemini Students In Action!

4th Grade students working in partnerships on understanding how the 6Cs of 21st Century Education can enhance their learning.



5th Grade students transforming themselves into Action Researchers to work on tackling the Sustainable Development Goals *(SDGs)



SLIDESMANIA.COM

Type III: Gemini²: Middle School Curricular Outline

QUARTER 1

CHANGEMAKER FRAMEWORK

- ★ Understanding Ourselves/Crafting Our Identities
- ★ Learning the Stories of Changemakers Past and Present

GENERATING KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK

- ★ Consider: who we are, what we are interested in, what matters to us

HISTORICALLY RESPONSIVE LITERACY

- ★ Identity: who are we, and who do we want to be

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING

- ★ Identify a challenge/problem

QUARTER 2

CHANGEMAKER FRAMEWORK

- ★ Educating Ourselves/Learning the Issues
- ★ Understanding What Matters to Me and Why

GENERATING KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK

- ★ Curate: immerse ourselves in texts (research)

HISTORICALLY RESPONSIVE LITERACY

- ★ Skills: what skills are we practicing or learning as a reader, writer, and thinker

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING

- ★ Investigate and explore resources related to the problem

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Type III: Gemini^2: Middle School Scheduling Updates

Quarter 1:
- ★ 68 students
- ★ 4 sections of 17
- ★ 1 time per week
- ★ 5th day
  - Make-up Day
  - Assemblies
  - Trips/Speakers

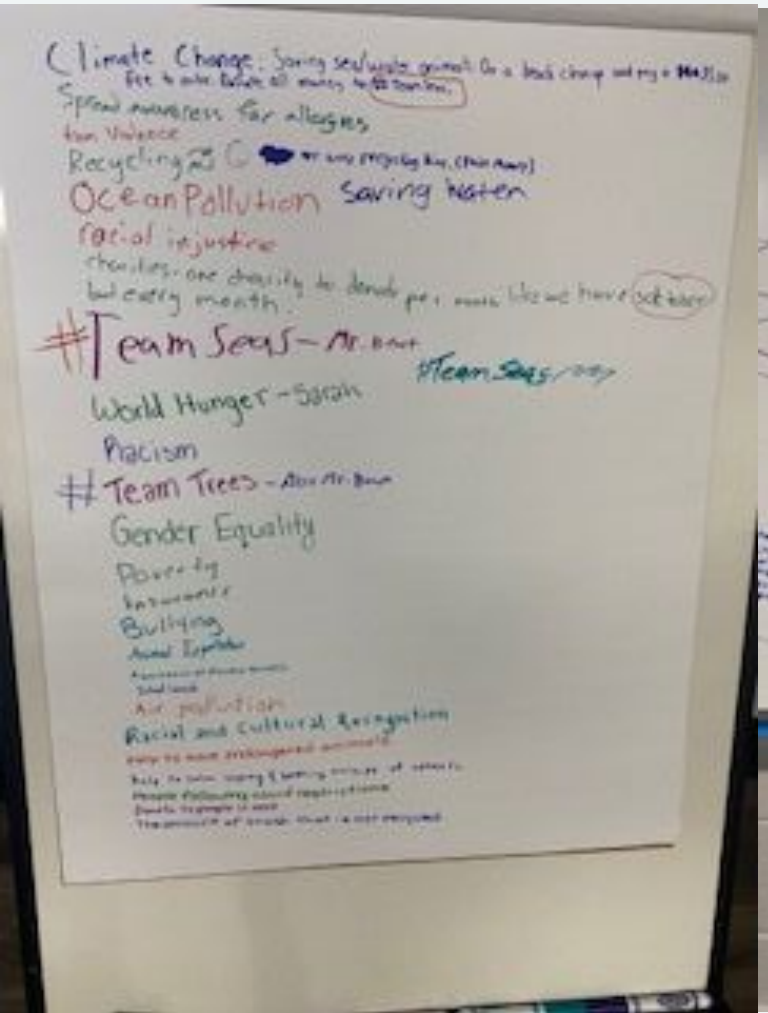
Quarter 2:
- ★ 68 students
- ★ 3 sections of 22-23
- ★ 1-2 times per week

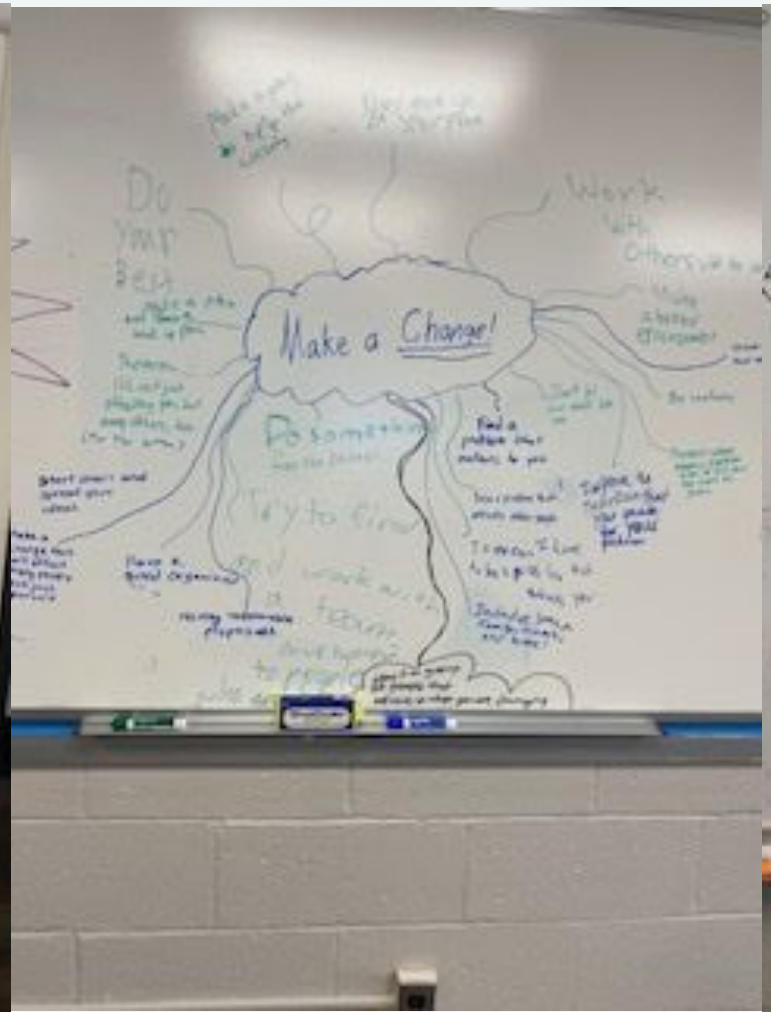
OR

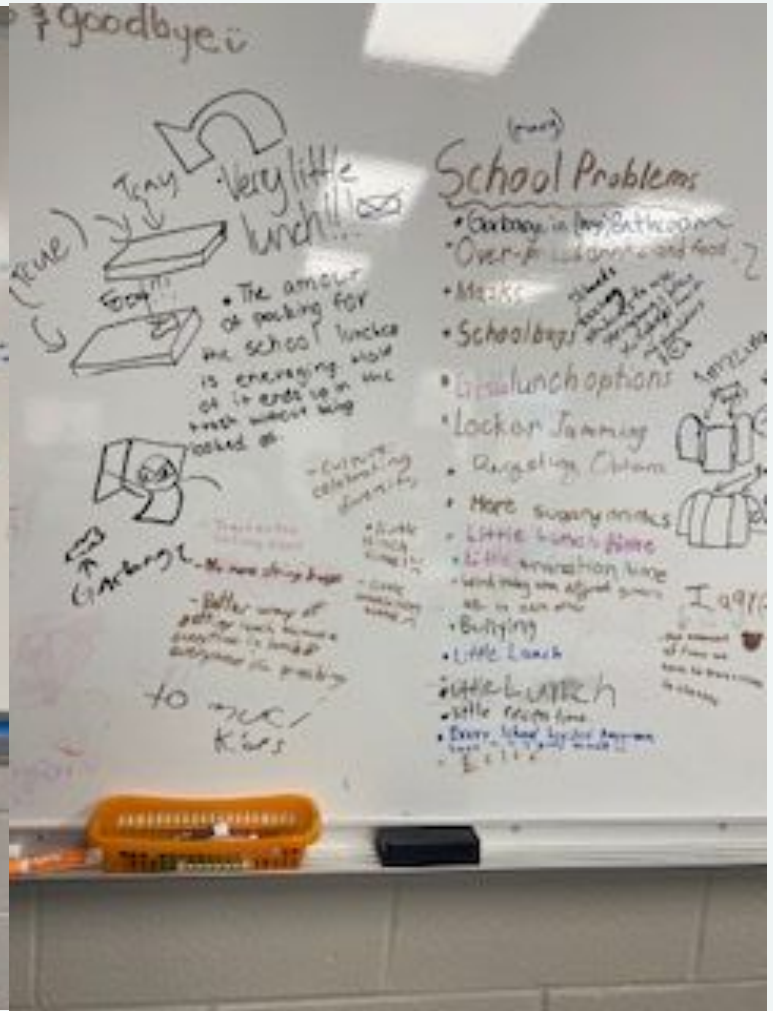
Quarter 2:
- ★ 68 students
- ★ 4 sections of 17
- ★ 3-4 times per week

SLIDESMANIA.COM

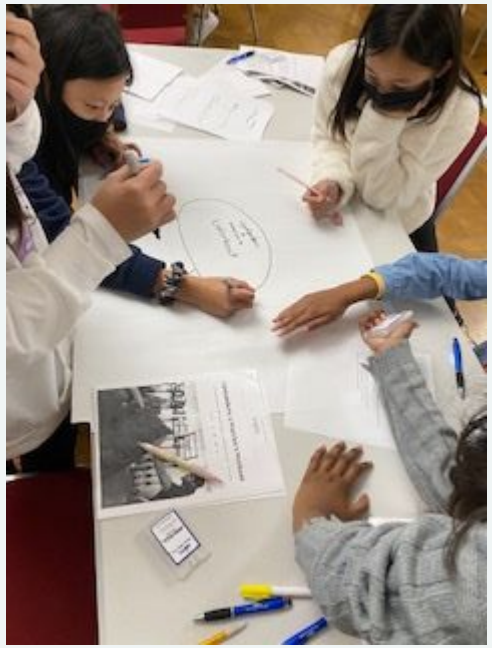
Type III: Middle School Gemini²: Brainstorming Changemaker Framework







Type III: Middle School Gemini^2 Trip: Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance



Change starts with YOU!

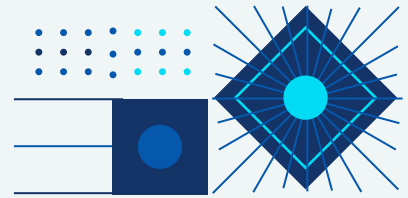
SLIDESMANIA.COM

Enrichment for All Program Enhancements

Elementary Enrichment (K-5) (Type I)	Gemini (4-5) (Type II)	Gemini^2 (6-7) (Type III)
Gemini teachers push into general education classrooms (K-5)	Changes to identification measures and process	Middle school seminars (6th & 7th grade)
Consistency among all elementary schools	Consistency among all elementary schools (2/week)	3-4 sections/week 17-23 students
Extending and enriching general education curriculum through PLTW curriculum units & demonstration lessons	Units of study reflect 21st century skills, Herricks 6 Cs of a HS graduate and UN sustainability goals	Seminars focus on research, presenting, writing, and critical thinking in areas of student interest
Increased communication, transparency, and access	Vertical alignment to middle school Gemini^2 Humanities & STEM seminars	8th grade: electives and access to Regents level of classes

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Recommendations for Gemini Admissions



NWEA universal screener beginning in spring of third grade and continuing in grades 4 and 5

If not in 90%ile on one measure and 82%ile on the other, process ends

Students on the cusp put on *wait & watch* list; students may be re-tested the following year

If 90%ile on one measure, AND 82%ile on the other, process continues

Administer CogAT using local norms, complete teacher and parent rating scales

Qualifies for Gemini Services

Doesn't qualify for Gemini services

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Gemini Revisioned

Gifted pupils are those who show evidence of high performance capability and exceptional potential in areas such as general intellectual ability, special academic aptitude and outstanding ability in visual and performing arts.

Enrichment activities may occur in the classroom or in a separate setting such as a pull-out program that extends and enriches the general education curriculum to meet the cognitive and social-emotional needs of gifted learners.

Mentors, teachers, and facilitators will share their expertise in their careers, fields of studies, and aspirations with students.

Intelligence, the ability to learn, reason, and problem solve is a combination of an innate quality and something that is developed as a result of interacting with the classroom environment.

Needs related to social-emotional learning, including the study of values, attitudes, and self awareness, will be supported and developed within the program.

Independent study sessions will consist of the teacher acting as guide/facilitator and the students leading their own learning by choosing a topic of special interest to the students.

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Next Steps for Stakeholders:

- Continuous monthly meetings with Gifted and Talented Consultant
- Intervisitations between elementary Gemini teachers and Middle School teachers
- Virtual meeting/visits from comparative districts
- Elementary Gemini teachers will present at faculty meeting to inform teachers about the changes
- Middle school staff and administration revisit service delivery
- Invite teachers from both primary and upper grades to offer their perspective (January/February)
- Invite parents to committee meetings to offer their perspective (March/April)
- Include current Gemini students in reflection of program (May/June)

SLIDESMANIA.COM

Thank you!

Any questions?

SLIDESMANIA.COM