

Advanced Learning Program (ALP) Overview

Somers CSD has always provided opportunities for advanced learners

Primrose	SIS	SMS	SHS
Enrichment	Enrichment	Accelerated Math	AP courses
	REACH	Earth Science in 8th	Honors Courses
			Acceleration

Mission

In addition to the educational experience for all Somers students, the Somers School District will enrich the advanced learner by individualizing academic experiences to ensure each *advanced learner's* potential is realized.

Vision

As a school district, we are committed to increasing the learning of all students. Thus, we will strive to ensure each student reaches his or her potential. In our ALP we will:

- Monitor student learning to ensure students are identified for the Advanced Learning Program (ALP)
- Develop differentiated and tiered learning opportunities
- Provide clear process and structure to support the advanced learning student

Values

To advance our shared vision of a highly effective ALP program we will:

- Collaborate with the student and family to enrich the learning experience
- Expand our professional knowledge about teaching the advanced learning student
- Commit to adjusting our approaches to supporting the advanced learning student
- Understand the complexity of the advanced learner
- Recognize that high-ability students come from a variety of societal, cultural, and economic backgrounds

The Advanced Learning Program (ALP) is a way to:

- **Capture all of these types of programs under one umbrella and title**
- **Ensure a cohesive experience for students with advanced learning potential over time**
- **Provide advanced learning opportunities in different ways to a larger group of students**
 - **Give students multiple opportunities to be screened for such opportunities**
 - **Create a more individualized learning experience for these students**

SCSD defines students that can access Advanced Learning Program (ALP) resources as:

- Students with outstanding talent who perform or show the potential for performing at extraordinarily high levels of accomplishment when compared with their peers.
- Students that demonstrate high performance capability in intellectual, academic, creative, and/or artistic areas,
- Students that may possess a strong capacity for leadership.

These students may require services beyond the variety of classroom opportunities.

Year One Focus on Cognitive Ability- all students grades 3 and 6 will take the CogAT

In building the body of evidence, information is gathered by looking at the screening measures and then by looking at achievement, behavior and performance. Data is collected as evidence of intensive academic need and/or exceptional ability.

- **Achievement** (Academic): New York State Testing Program (NYSTP) and Renaissance Learning(STAR Math and Reading).
- **Behavior** (Observation): Teacher Observation, Renzulli:
- **Performance**: portfolios, student products, report cards and grades, performance tasks, other.

Current Reality	Desired State
Cognitive Screening Tool CogAT – grade 3	Cognitive Screening Tool CogAT – grades 3 and 6 with a smaller group of candidates from a talent pool in grade1. Creativity Screening Tool TTOCT- grades 2 and 5
ALP students in the cognitive domain and in the subject area of math (and earth science in 8 th grade)	Expand to ALP students in the areas of cognition, creativity, leadership, visual and performing arts, and possibly more distinct subject areas
.4 ALP teacher at Primrose, 1 FTE ALP teacher at SIS and a .5 ALP teacher at SMS	1 FTE ALP teacher at Primrose, 1 FTE ALP teacher at SIS and maintain a .5 ALP teacher at SMS
Teachers who are passionate about working with ALP students	Teachers who are passionate about working with ALP students who have a certificate in Gifted Education

Just like we have a tiered approach to
supporting students experiencing difficulty in
learning (AIS), we will have a tiered approach
to supporting students who are ALP
candidates

Somers Advanced Learner Program

Continuum of Support

Tiers of support for ALP students broken down further

Levels of Support

ALP students experience enrichment opportunities that go beyond the standard curriculum or in older grades a comprehensive replacement of curriculum. (i.e. A 6th grade student is placed in 7th or 8th grade math.)

ALP students receive strategic support where some classroom experiences are replaced by higher level learning.

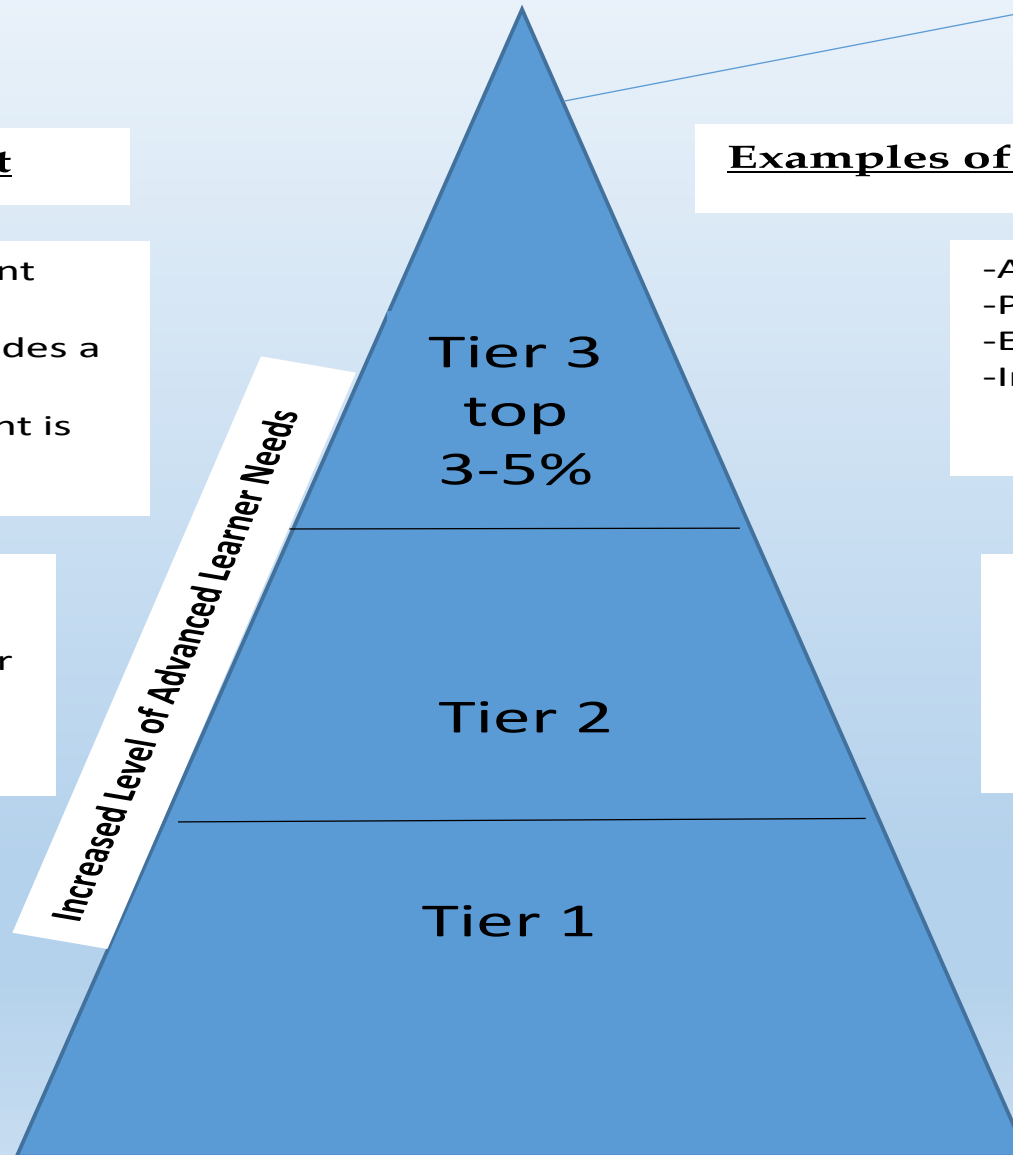
ALP students receive enrichment work delivered by teachers in the general education classroom.

Examples of Support for ALP Students

- Accelerations
- Pull out classes
- Enrichment math
- Independent Study and/or research

- Enrichment activities
- Projects
- Honors, AP, IB
- Outside activities
- Curriculum compacting
- Tiered assignments

- High-quality Instruction
- Universal Screening
- Differentiated Curriculum and instruction



Next Steps

- **Certificates for full time ALP teachers**
- **Started with cognitive this year expand to other areas in year 2+**
- **Meeting regularly with ALP team to assign students to programing**
- **This year's programming involves students 1-6, SHS to be determined**
- **Primrose talent pool-get to know students and their interests, talents and aptitudes**
- **Screenings will happen more than once over time since we know students grow**