



Unique programs for all grades...  
 Preschool-6 7&8 9-12  
**Gifted Services**

# Canyon Springs STEM Academy

Gifted Specialist: [Christine.Rowlan@dvusd.org](mailto:Christine.Rowlan@dvusd.org)

2023-24 Continuum of Gifted Services													
Grades Kindergarten, 1, & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bright Beginnings Kindergarten/ Gifted Cluster</li> <li>Flexible Ability Grouping for Intervention</li> <li>PETS Gifted Potential/Critical Thinking Lessons (all classes)</li> <li>SPARK Enrichment</li> <li>Renaissance Highly Gifted Program</li> </ul>												
Grades 3, 4, 5, & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gifted Cluster</li> <li>Flexible Ability Grouping for Intervention</li> <li>Walk-Up to Math</li> <li>SPARK Enrichment</li> <li>Renaissance Highly Gifted Program</li> </ul>												
Grades 7 & 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Content Classes in ELA</li> <li>High School Algebra (Credit transferable to any high school)</li> <li>High School Spanish 1/2 and 3/4 (2 years of credit transferable to any high school)</li> <li>Renaissance Highly Gifted Program</li> <li>SPARK Enrichment</li> </ul>												
Professional Focus on Gifted and Enrichment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Time Gifted Specialist, Full time Gifted STEM Specialist, and Itinerant .2 Gifted Specialist</li> <li>17 teachers have a Gifted Endorsement</li> <li>10 more are working on hours towards endorsement</li> <li>AdvancED STEM Certified School</li> </ul>												
Extra-Curricular Activities & Programs	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>K-8 Spanish Language Special Area Program</td> <td>National Jr Honor Society</td> <td>K-8 Makerspace Engineering Lab</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fine Arts Programs</td> <td>National Elementary Honor Society</td> <td>STEM Club and Robotics</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mathletes</td> <td>Student Government</td> <td>Rubik's Cube Club</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Battle of the Books</td> <td>Middle School Athletics</td> <td>Friendship Focused Clubs</td> </tr> </table>	K-8 Spanish Language Special Area Program	National Jr Honor Society	K-8 Makerspace Engineering Lab	Fine Arts Programs	National Elementary Honor Society	STEM Club and Robotics	Mathletes	Student Government	Rubik's Cube Club	Battle of the Books	Middle School Athletics	Friendship Focused Clubs
K-8 Spanish Language Special Area Program	National Jr Honor Society	K-8 Makerspace Engineering Lab											
Fine Arts Programs	National Elementary Honor Society	STEM Club and Robotics											
Mathletes	Student Government	Rubik's Cube Club											
Battle of the Books	Middle School Athletics	Friendship Focused Clubs											

**Gifted Placement** - Students are identified in the areas of Verbal, Quantitative, and Nonverbal reasoning. Canyon Springs uses the Naglieri General Abilities Test (NGAT) and Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) assessments to place students into one or more gifted programs. Canyon Springs (CS) offers gifted services for students who score at or above 90% in one or more areas. Placement testing is conducted three times a year based on teacher and parent recommendation. Registration is available [ONLINE](#). Students may also qualify based on other state approved gifted identification assessments. Students may only be tested once per calendar year.





# Canyon Springs STEM Academy

## 2022-2023 Description of Gifted Services

Gifted Specialist: [Christine.Rowlan@dvusd.org](mailto:Christine.Rowlan@dvusd.org)

### Gifted Program Details -

**Bright Beginnings:** Qualifying students are placed in a Bright Beginnings Kindergarten classroom with children of similar abilities. Students participating in Bright Beginnings are taught by a gifted endorsed teacher. During their time in Bright Beginnings Kindergarten, students work and learn at a pace commensurate with their advanced abilities. Instruction is project and problem-based to support critical and creative thinking within an inquiry learning environment.

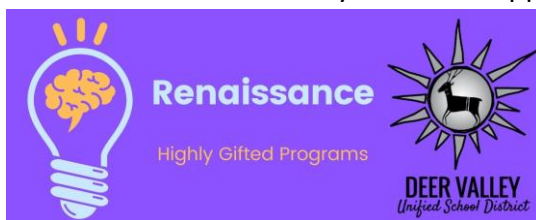


**PETS (Primary Education Thinking Skills):** PETS™ (Primary Education Thinking Skills) is a systematized enrichment and diagnostic thinking skills program. Lessons are presented in convergent analysis, divergent synthesis, visual/spatial thinking, and evaluation. This program is utilized in every classroom K-3 to help identify gifted learners and enrich understanding for all students.

**Gifted Cluster:** All gifted students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> (those scoring at or above 90% in one or more areas) are clustered together with a gifted trained teacher for the majority of the school day. These teachers understand and value the unique academic and emotional needs of gifted students and have built a classroom environment that challenges students in every content area.

**Supporting Potential and Achievement in Remarkable Kids (SPARK) Enrichment:** All gifted identified students in grades 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> participate in weekly enrichment projects and lessons, usually during Tier II periods with the Gifted Specialist. SPARK is an ongoing enrichment learning program that addresses the unique needs of gifted and high potential students. This program provides students with engaging experiences in mathematics, language and communication, writing, technology, and/or the arts through enrichment opportunities.

**Walk-Up to Math:** Students in grades 3-8 who test above grade level on school placement exams (showing mastery of 80% of a grade level's concepts for math) and meet the rest of the requirements on our placement rubric are clustered together and placed in the above grade level's gifted cluster math class. We currently offer the opportunity to attend Geometry and higher math classes at the High School.



**Renaissance Highly Gifted Program:** Is a self-contained program where only qualified and accepted applicants are in project-rich, STEM-based, gifted classroom for their academic coursework. Class sizes are smaller than average and social and emotional supports, unique to gifted

learners, are employed with a gifted endorsed teacher. Students must score 90+ in all 3 areas tested with 280 or higher as an overall total score on the CogAT assessment. Students also must pass the application process. Renaissance is offered in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Middle School Advance Content Classes:** Qualifying gifted and high achieving students are placed in advanced content area classes similar to high school honors classes.

**This full range of services is  
only available at Canyon Springs!**

