



Honors Program Litchfield Elementary School District

Guide and Application Packet 2025-2026

A completed application is due to
your child's home middle school by
4:00pm on Friday, March 28, 2025.

If you are pursuing open-enrollment, you will need to communicate this with your home school.

Honors Coordinator Emails:

Belen Soto Middle School	Natalie Sauch, Assistant Principal sauchn@lesd79.org
LTH Middle School	Grizellie Hedges, Assistant Principal hedgesg@lesd79.org
PVE Middle School	Dr. Kim Hill, Principal Hillki@lesd79.org
Western Sky Middle School	Aaron Gould, Assistant Principal gouldaa@lesd79.org
Wigwam Creek Middle School	Kathleen McQuarrie, Assistant Principal mcquarrie@lesd79.org
Verrado Heritage Middle School	Kristine Carberry, Assistant Principal carberry@lesd79.org
Verrado Middle School	Jared Aasen, Assistant Principal aasenj@lesd79.org

In June 2025, State Assessment Data, Spring District Assessment Data, GPA, and behavior will be reviewed to determine final eligibility of all students. This final confirmation will be emailed to families on June 6, 2025. It is important that students try their best on all end of year assessments to maintain or reach eligibility.

The LESD Honors Program in the Litchfield Elementary School District has been designed to provide an opportunity for our most highly competent and academically able students to demonstrate their excellence.

Entrance into the LESD Honors Program is a rigorous endeavor most appropriate for highly motivated students whose academic abilities and talents span across the entire curriculum spectrum.

The goal of this program is to provide students who have advanced intellectual, academic, and/or creative capabilities the opportunity to dynamically interact with a team of academic specialists. In addition, students will work with peers of similar aptitude within a rigorous, interdisciplinary learning environment in order to reach their highest level of learning and accomplishment.

Differentiation in environment, instructional methods, process, and product expectations provide appropriate educational experiences for these students. Students are provided with a rigorous interdisciplinary core curriculum of Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, and History/Social Studies. Students may also have an opportunity to explore areas of interest in depth through independent research.

Program Criteria

The identification process to determine eligibility for the LESD Honors Program is an inclusive rather than exclusive procedure. The Litchfield Elementary School District is committed to identifying students from any ethnic background, socioeconomic condition, or geographic location in the district.

If an open enrollment for your child is approved at one school it does not automatically guarantee placement in an Honors Classroom at another LESD school.

Program Expectations

It is the expectation that the LESD Honors Program will benefit the students within the program as well as the school. The program is designed around these expected outcomes:

- Higher academic gains on standardized testing measures.
- Students must maintain proficiency or mastery on state of district assessments.
- Challenging, extended curriculum
- Differentiated process, product, and learning environment.
- Higher levels of self-confidence and self-reliance among students.
- Increased parent involvement and satisfaction.
- Access to a mode for educational excellence, and best practice research.
- Increase teacher expectations of students.

Attendance Expectations

Excellent attendance is mandatory for success in the LESD Honors program. It is recommended that students be in attendance at least 95% of the time to be successful.

Academic Expectations

Students are expected to maintain at least a B in every class. A quarter grade of C, D or F will signal a review process through a conference with parents, which may result in probationary status in the program. If necessary, intervention strategies will be implemented, documented, and assessed by the academic team and administration to maximize the opportunity for success of every student. In addition to GPA requirements, student achievement data will be used to determine initial and continued eligibility for the honors program. Additional Data used includes both state assessment data and district wide achievement data. Students must demonstrate current and continued proficiencies on these assessments to be eligible for and continue in the honors program at LESD79. New students will apply each year and continuing students must demonstrate eligibility each year.

Behavior Expectations

Behavior must be appropriate to the situation and setting. Students in the program are responsible for personal and interactive behavior. They will be expected to display appropriate learning behaviors in any situation and not interfere with the learning of others. Persistent inappropriate behavior will signal a review process through a conference with parents, which may result in probationary status in the program. If necessary, intervention strategies will be implemented, documented, and assessed by the academic team and administration to maximize the opportunity for success of every student.

Confidentiality

All portions of this application are confidential and will not be returned.

Application Process

Parents/guardians interested in having their child considered for entrance into the LESD Honors Program will need to complete an application for admittance into the program. Applications should be emailed to or dropped off at your child's home middle school. **The Honors Program application deadline is March 28, 2025 at 4:00pm.**

Application Instructions

Please fill out the application in its entirety.

1. Please be sure to complete Part 1 (student information section) on the next page. Applicants will be notified by email whether their child has been accepted into the Honors Program, please be sure to include your email address.
2. Part 2 is the parent questionnaire to be filled out by parent/guardian.
3. Part 3 is the student questionnaire to be filled out by the student.
4. Part 4 is the teacher questionnaire. Once a completed application is submitted, the **2024-2025** teacher will receive the questionnaire electronically from the home school. The teacher will fill out the form and submit it to the appropriate school.
5. Upon completion, please submit Parts 1 - 3 via email or to the front office of your child's school by **Friday, March 28, 2025**. Hand-written applications may be scanned and emailed or personally delivered to the school which you are applying to.
6. Honors Applications will be reviewed by the Honors Committee and utilizing the performance rubric. The performance rubric will be populated with student grades and test scores. If the student who is applying for the Honors Program is new to the district, please provide any student performance records you can obtain, such as report cards and test score reports.

Notification Process

All applications will be evaluated. Parents/Guardians will be notified by email whether your child has received preliminary eligibility for the Honors Program **Friday, June 6, 2025**. After the State Assessment Date is reviewed in June of 2025, final determination will be made for eligibility. Students who qualify, but are not accepted due to space, will be placed on a waiting list and will be placed as space becomes available. Questions regarding the Honors Program can be referred to the school's Honors Coordinator.



LESD Honors Program Application Packet 2025-2026 School Year Application

2025-2026 Grade Level: 6 7 8

2025-2026 Home School: BSES LTHMS PVE VHES VMS WCMS WSMS

Part 1 - Student Information

Child's Name: _____
(Please Print) (Last Name) (First Name) (MI)

Birthdate: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email address (required): _____

Current School: _____ Current Grade: _____ Current Homeroom Teacher: _____

Parent/ Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Part 2 - Parent Questionnaire

Name of Student: _____

Person completing this form: _____

Relation to the student: _____

1. In the space below, please provide a narrative explaining the reason why you feel your child would benefit from participation in the LESD Honors Program.

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LESD Honors Program Application Packet 2025-2026 School Year Application

Part 2 Continued - Parent Questionnaire

2. In what ways will you support your child in the Honors Program?

/2

3. Please rate the following characteristics of your child:

Characteristics	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Shows initiative/motivation				
Displays intellectual curiosity				
Demonstrates creativity				
Gives unique and insightful answers				
Discusses in detail and elaborates				
Demonstrates respect toward adults				
Works well with peers				
Displays persistence to complete tasks				
Behavior does not impede learning of self/others				
Turns in assignments consistently				

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LESD Honors Program Application Packet 2025-2026 School Year Application

Part 3 - Student Questionnaire

Please complete the entire packet in your own handwriting.

Student Name: _____ Current School: _____ Current Grade: _____

1. Please tell us why you would be an exceptional candidate for the LESD Honors Program.

/5

2. How do you manage your time? Explain how you balance school work and extracurricular activities?

/5



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Part 3 Continued - Student Questionnaire

3. Please explain how you relate to others when working in a group and how you contribute to the group's success.

/5

4. If you could create a new program on your school campus, what would it be and how would you implement the program?

/5



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Part 4 - Teacher Questionnaire

Student Name: _____ Current School: _____ Current Grade: _____

Teacher Name: _____ School: _____

Completion of this checklist is critical in determining placement for this student. We hope that this checklist will provide a convenient method for describing the candidate in summary fashion. Please rate the following characteristics of this applicant.

Characteristics	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Shows initiative/motivation			
Displays intellectual curiosity			
Demonstrates creativity			
Observes and identifies details			
Gives unique and insightful answers			
Draws inferences/makes connections			
Discusses in detail and elaborates			
Demonstrates respect toward adults			
Works well with peers			
Displays persistence to complete tasks			
Adequate home support for school work			
Absences/tardies do not impede learning			
Behavior does not impede learning of self or others			
Turns in assignments consistently			
Learns new concepts quickly			

Sample ONLY. This form will be submitted electronically by your child's homeroom teacher.

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1. Is there anything else we should know about this student?

Sample ONLY. This form will be submitted electronically by your child's homeroom teacher.



LESD Honors Program Application Packet 2025-2026 School Year Application

Current LESD Students:

Do not need to provide test scores or a copy of the report card.

New LESD Students:

Please provide any test scores from last school year as well as a copy of the current report card.

Preliminary Eligibility Honors Program Rubric	Total
Prior Year AASA Scores Highly Proficient=6, Proficient=4, Partially Proficient=2, Minimally Proficient =0 Reading - _____ Points = _____ Math - _____ Points = _____	
Cognitive Abilities Test (Bonus Points) 97-99=6, 94-96=4, 90-93=2, 89-lower=0 Verbal = _____ Nonverbal = _____ Quantitative = _____	
Winter Benchmark Scores Highly Proficient=6, Proficient Plus=4, Proficient=2, Partially Proficient/Minimally Proficient =0 Reading - _____ Points = _____ Math - _____ Points = _____	
GPA Based on GPA - 4.0 = 4, 3.5–3.9 = 3, 3.0–3.4 = 1 Quarter 1 GPA = _____ Points = _____ Quarter 2 GPA = _____ Points = _____ Quarter 3 GPA = _____ Points = _____	
Total for Academic Performance (Minimum 27 points)	/36
Part 2 Parent Questionnaire (Up to 14 points)	
Part 3 Student Questionnaire (Up to 20 points)	
Part 4 Teacher Questionnaire (Up to 30 points)	
Total for Questionnaires (Minimum 48 points)	/64

In order to be considered for placement in the LESD Honors Program students must first meet the minimum of 27 points in academic performance.

Final Eligibility Honors Program Rubric	Total
Current Year AASA Scores Highly Proficient=6, Proficient=4, Partially Proficient=2, Minimally Proficient =0 Reading - _____ Points = _____ Math - _____ Points = _____	
Cognitive Abilities Test (Bonus Points) 97-99=6, 94-96=4, 90-93=2, 89-lower=0 Verbal = _____ Nonverbal = _____ Quantitative = _____	
Spring Benchmark Scores Highly Proficient=6, Proficient Plus=4, Proficient=2, Partially Proficient/Minimally Proficient =0 Reading - _____ Points = _____ Math - _____ Points = _____	
GPA Based on GPA - 4.0 = 3, 3.5-3.9 = 2, 3.0-3.4 = 1 Quarter 1 GPA = _____ Points = _____ Quarter 2 GPA = _____ Points = _____ Quarter 3 GPA = _____ Points = _____ Quarter 4 GPA = _____ Points = _____	
Total for Academic Performance (Minimum 27 points)	/36
Part 2 Parent Questionnaire (Up to 14 points)	
Part 3 Student Questionnaire (Up to 20 points)	
Part 4 Teacher Questionnaire (Up to 30 points)	
Total for Questionnaires (Minimum 48 points)	/64

In order to be considered for placement in the LESD Honors Program students must first meet the minimum of 27 points in academic performance.