

Program Philosophy & Core Values

Fox Chapel Area School District is committed to designing programming to meet the unique academic and affective needs of gifted and talented students. The elementary QUEST curriculum has been designed to foster areas of student strengths and interests through rigorous, motivating, and meaningful learning experiences. Specific program goals include:

1. Supporting the achievement and growth of gifted and high performing students
2. Designing cross-curricular and standards aligned learning experiences
3. Developing social, emotional, and intellectual capacities of exceptional students
4. Providing choice through independent inquiry and self-directed learning experiences
5. Promoting collaboration, communication, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking



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ELEMENTARY GIFTED EDUCATION

**Fox Chapel Area
School District**

<https://www.fcasd.edu/academics/gifted-programs>



K-5 Gifted Program: QUEST

Capstone Experiences

A capstone is a multifaceted assignment designed to encourage students to think critically, solve challenging problems, and acquire 21st century skills such as thinking flexibly, creating and innovating, persisting, and working collaboratively.

Capstone projects are interdisciplinary and encourage our elementary gifted students to connect their projects to real-world issues or problems.

Capstone Rotations

Creative Connections (ELA)

- Publishing Written Works
- Drama
- Debate

Innovative Inquiry (STEAM)

- Engineering Design Challenges
- Coding
- Drones

Application Avenue (Math)

- Data Study (Facts and Figures Forum)
- Stock Market Game
- Project M3 Curriculum (Probability, Measurement)

Enrichment English Language Arts

Student data is reviewed annually to identify students in need of enrichment in ELA. A small group cohort meets during the daily reading block to engage in curriculum that builds and extends upon the core curriculum and grade level standards.

ELA enrichment opportunities include exploration of enriched text sets and novels in a variety of genres, comparative analysis, integration of advanced vocabulary, close reading activities, and analytical writing.



Mathematics Acceleration & Enrichment

Student data profiles are screened annually to determine which students might benefit from math acceleration. Identified students attend math class with the appropriate grade math class. Students that are ready for math beyond grade 5 at the elementary level participate in an accelerated virtual math class with their peers across the elementary buildings. Each school has additional measures in place to ensure that advanced learners that do not qualify for acceleration receive appropriate enrichment and differentiation in mathematics.

Gifted Education Resources

Fox Chapel Area School District - PAGE
www.giftedfoxes.org

National Associate for Gifted Children
www.nagc.org

Pennsylvania Associate for Gifted Education - PAGE
www.giftedpage.org

Pennsylvania Department of Education
www.pde.state.pa.us

Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education, and Talent Development
www.gifted.uconn.edu

Hoagies Gifted Education Home Page
www.hoagiesgifted.org

