Mountain Shadows Elementary School

2026-2027 Overview of Gifted Services

Gifted Specialist: Shaunne.McKinley@dvusd.org

	Gifted Services Provided		
Kindergarten	Gifted Cluster		
Grades 1, 2 & 3	Gifted Cluster SPARK Enrichment 3rd Grade Walk-Up Math		
Grade 4	Gifted Cluster SPARK Enrichment Walk-Up Math		
Grades 5 & 6	Gifted Cluster Sage ELA Sage 7th Grade Math		
Extra-Curricular Opportunities	6th Grade Leadership Summit Battle of the Books Yearbook	The Leader & Me (Student Leadership Action Teams) Lighthouse TEAM	National Elementary Honor Society Fine Arts Programs Bobcat – Before and After School Care

Gifted Program Details -

Gifted Cluster: Gifted students (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.

SPARK Enrichment: Gifted identified students participate in enrichment projects and lessons, usually during RTI 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, communication, writing, technology, and/or the arts through enrichment opportunities.

SAGE ELA: Content replacement model offered for 6th grade students who score at or above 88% in the Verbal Area

on a state approved test. This is determined by student need and taught by the gifted specialist utilizing specific district grade level gifted curriculum.

SAGE Math: Content replacement model will be offered for 6th grade students who score at or above the 88% in the Quantitative Area on a state approved test. This will be determined by student need and taught by the gifted specialist integrating the district 7th grade math curriculum.

Gifted Placement & Testing -

Gifted Testing and Scores: Students are assessed in three areas (Verbal, Quantitative, & Nonverbal) using the CogAT OR NGAT assessments. Mountain Shadows offers gifted services for students who score at or above 80% in one or more areas. Placement testing is conducted three times a year based on teacher and parent recommendation. Students may also qualify based on other state approved gifted identification assessments. Students may only be tested once per calendar year.

Mountain Shadows is…

A Kids at Hope community that creates lifelong leaders with skills essential for the 21stcentury.

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