Gifted and Talented

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

McGraw Elementary, an IB World School

At McGraw Elementary, all students receive a level of support that enables them to succeed within the range of their abilities. Our staff implements learning and teaching practices that address an individual student's learning needs. This is especially true for our Gifted and Talented students. The **IB Primary Years Program** is designed to **promote student agency** and enrich and extend student learning. As a result, our students are well prepared to take advantage of acceleration opportunities, where appropriate, in both the middle school and high school settings.

https://mcg.psdschools.org/who-we-are/gifted-talented-program

20-25
Average GT students

316
Total student enrollment

Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

Each classroom provides differentiated instruction. Differentiation begins with the process of identifying, in partnership with each learner, the most effective strategies for achieving learning goals. Dynamic groupings within classrooms, use of pre-assessments to discover student's strengths and areas to focus instruction on, targeted instruction based on ongoing assessments and provision of resources designed to address student's level of readiness, are some examples of how the needs of GT learners are met. Enrichment groups and other opportunities may also be offered, based on the needs and interests of students who qualify for GT services at McGraw.

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

Paul Schkade | GT Coordinator/ IB Program Coordinator
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Overview of the GT program at this school

The IB Primary Years Program curriculum engages students in rich tasks which invite an open-ended exploration of a topic or concept. It presents substantive, real problems to solve and engages learners in taking self-initiated action which has a positive impact on our local and global communities. Inquiry, as the dominant mode of instruction at McGraw, takes many forms. A few examples of inquiry are Socratic Seminars, inquiry circles, individualized student research projects, Genius Hour and the 5th Grade PYP Exhibition.

At McGraw, students explore transdisciplinary units with concept-based central ideas to develop depth and detail in their knowledge and understanding. During these units, students integrate knowledge and skills to challenge and extend their thinking and learning (e.g. explaining a phenomenon, solving a problem, creating a product or raising new questions).

Advanced Learning Plan process at this school

A student's ALP is written each year through a collaborative process that includes input from the student, their classroom teacher and parents. The student's academic and affective goals may be based on areas of strength to build upon or Areas of further growth to develop. The purpose of the ALP is to guide educational programming and decisions about gifted services.

A student's ALP will have goals written in the academic areas specified on their GT Identification Profile, as well as a social-emotional (affective) goal. The school GT coordinator will conduct a mid-year and end-of-year review with each student about progress toward their ALP goals. The student's classroom teacher and parents will be asked to provide input for these reviews. Parents will receive ongoing communication about the ALP.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students during school

- 3rd-5th Grade enrichment groups based on student need/interest
- Math Olympiad (4th-5th Grade)
- STEM classes in the school Innovation Lab (3rd-5th Grade)
- Colorado Stock Market Experience simulation (4th and 5th Grades)
- Computer Coding (Scratch - 3rd Grade Python - 4th and 5th Grade)
- McGraw News Show crew (4th-5th Grade)

Enrichment opportunities for GT students before or after school

- Odyssey of the Mind (1st-5th Grade)
- Chess Club (1st-5th Grade)
- STEM Lego Club (K-3rd Grade)
- Mighty Math Minds tournament (4th-5th Grade)

Affective programming for GT students

Student's ALP affective needs goals are built into their Advanced Learning Plans and carried out during the regular school day. Depending on a student's goals, there may be opportunities provided to serve as a peer mentor, serve on the student leadership team, participate in community service projects, or participate in a small group with other students to practice and develop affective skills.

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

Grade-specific GT services

- Grades 3-5: pull-out enrichment groups
- Grades K-5: classroom differentiation

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