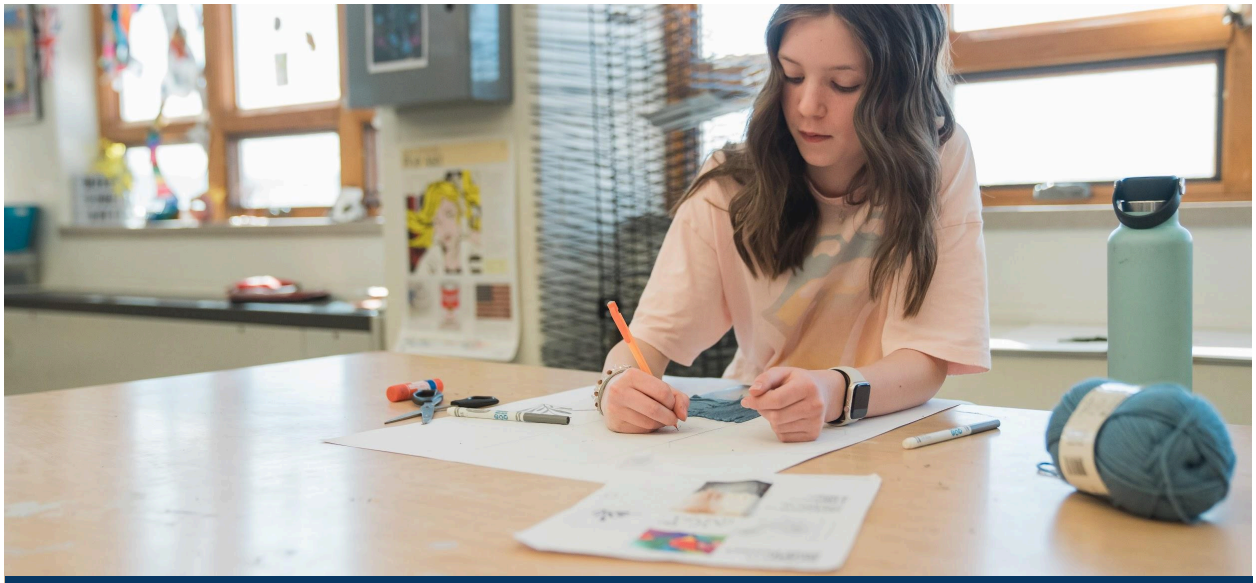

Gifted and Talented

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lesher Middle School, an IB World School

The Gifted and Talented program strives to nurture the development of exceptional abilities so that all gifted students demonstrate positive self-esteem, high-level thinking and creative productivity. Gifted PSD students are identified by their strength areas and needs. Educational programming is implemented to match their identified needs. Student progress and achievement is monitored through on-going assessment.

Gifted children are students between 4 and 21 whose abilities, talents and potential for accomplishment are so outstanding that they require special provisions to meet their educational needs. Gifted students include gifted students with disabilities (i.e. twice exceptional) and students with exceptional abilities or potential from all socio-economic and ethnic, cultural populations.

les.psdschools.org/gifted-and-talented

200
Average GT students

800
Total student enrollment

Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

Lesher provides GT learners an opportunity to collaborate with their peers on a daily basis through flexible and cluster grouping. In addition, gifted students are grouped through GT English, advanced Math, and a variety of enrichment opportunities.

Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

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Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

Overview of the GT program at this school

Lesher's Gifted and Talented program adheres to the IB/MYP fundamental concepts of holistic education, intercultural awareness, and communication with the express intent to meet the diversified cognitive, emotional and social needs of the gifted learner. Lesher creates a supportive learning environment that nurtures the natural talents, strengths and interests of advanced learners.

Advanced Learning Plan process at this school

We have developed a variety of components that help foster effective and personalized learning. We believe the development of the whole child, community, service, creativity, leadership, staff support and autonomous life-long learning is essential for the well-being and development of the gifted learner. Therefore, the student chooses from a variety of ALP choices designed to challenge while offering opportunities in leadership.

Programming opportunities for GT students

Lesher provides GT learners an opportunity to collaborate with their peers on a daily basis through flexible and cluster grouping. In addition, gifted students are grouped through honors English (6th grade), advanced Math, and a variety of enrichment opportunities during and after school.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students during school

- Science Olympiad
- MathCounts
- Lesher Yearbook
- WEB Leaders Community Action and Service
- Student Council
- Women's strength training
- Technology Student Association (TSA)
- Brain Bowl
- Drama
- Odyssey of the mind
- Creative Writing and Poetry Competitions
- French, German, Spanish
- Advanced Spanish LIteracy
- Outdoor Adventure Education
- Art: YAM exhibition, Scholastic Competition, Set Design (sem 1), Art Club (sem 2)
- Gardening
- 40 Book Challenge
- rMusical Theater
- Technology: 3D Printing, WEB Design, Web 2.0 Portfolio
- Lego Robotics

Enrichment opportunities for GT students before or after school

- Lesher IMPACTS Catalina Island service-learning trips
- Lesher Edventure International Travel
- River Watch Team
- Chess Club
- Drama Club, Musical Theater
- National Junior Honor Society
- Girls Who Code
- College/Career Planning field trips and discussion groups.
- Science Olympiad mentor
- Music: Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Music Ensembles, Musical Tech and Stage
- Musical Stage Design
- Lego Robotics and Design Club
- Genius Week Summer Institute
- Clubs: Environment, Photography, Art
- World/Dual Language international summer trips
- eSports Club and eSports League
- Athletics

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

Affective programming for GT students

Using the IB Approaches to Learning skills, and the IB Learner Profile, we focus on a variety of topics such as perseverance, resilience, communication, collaboration, college and future planning. We strive to develop a foundation of self-management of mood, motivation, interpersonal relationships, and attitudes toward learning. Through ELO, we deliver lessons focusing on social emotional learning led by both teachers and student leaders. Lesher's Physical and Health Education classes place a significant emphasis on affective skills, social emotional learning, and mental health.

Grade-specific GT services

Teachers of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade gifted students in English and Advanced Math accelerate, enrich and extend district standards in language arts and math. GT students, in all classes, are encouraged to explore enrichment opportunities designed to address their needs. Development of the humanitarian spirit is an integral part of the IB/MYP vision and complements the multifaceted GT learner.

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