



GIFTED PROGRAM
DESCRIPTION (GRADES 6-8)

District 96 offers a Gifted Program at Hauser Junior High School in grades 6, 7, and 8. The Gifted Program is offered to eligible 6th grade students in the subject areas of reading and mathematics. The Gifted Program is offered to eligible 7th and 8th grade students in the subject areas of language arts and mathematics. Students in gifted math will be instructed in a separate class by a highly qualified math teacher. The focus of the program will allow for greater depth of study of curriculum concepts and accelerated study, as appropriate for the group. The curriculum for the gifted reading and language arts classes will be based on the existing curriculum for each grade level. Extended study of content areas will occur, as well as projects designed to meet the interests and capabilities of this group of students.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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DISTRICT 96
**QUEST
& GIFTED
PROGRAMS**

CRITERIA FOR QUEST AND GIFTED STUDENT IDENTIFICATION



QUEST PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (GRADES 3-5)

QUEST stands for **Q**uestioning, **U**nderstanding, **E**nriching, **S**ynthesizing, and **T**hinking. QUEST is the name of the elementary school enrichment program for grades 3-5. Students who meet the criteria for the QUEST program receive enrichment instruction in reading and/or math, one session per week, outside of the regular classroom instruction. Math classes meet for 60 minutes a week, and reading classes meet for 180 minutes a week. The QUEST curriculum is project-based and builds upon the regular classroom curriculum. Students are responsible for the regular class curriculum, and classroom teachers will allow participating students to be exempt from assignments missed if it is appropriate to do so. Curriculum projects in the QUEST programs are developed according to guidelines provided by the QUEST teacher. Student performance is monitored by the QUEST teacher and reported to parents semi-annually (mid-January and end of May). A copy of each report card is placed in the student's cumulative folder.

1. Initial Placement

- The CogAT Verbal Score is used for placement in the Reading/Language Arts Program and the CogAT Quantitative Score is used for placement in the Math Program.
- Spring Reading and Math MAP scores are also used for placement.
- Matrix Score of 7 points or above = automatic placement (CogAT Score of 135+ combined with a MAP Score of 97-99%ile; CogAT Score of 135 or above, combined with a MAP Score of 94- 96%ile; CogAT Score of 130-134 combined with a MAP Score of 97-99%ile).
- CogAT scores are available at parent request to assist them in evaluating their child's ability levels.

2. Continued Placement

- Students initially recommended for the QUEST or Gifted Program will continue in the program unless the classroom teacher, QUEST teacher, or parent determine that the student is not able to perform at a level commensurate with the expectations of the QUEST or Gifted Program, and/or maintain an acceptable level of performance in the regular classroom in reading and/or math.
- Re-admission - Students may be considered for re-admission at the start of each school year.
- Eligibility pursuant to initial placement criteria in the District 96 QUEST Program shall be reviewed in winter of the 5th grade year, before entering the junior high school. Eligibility criteria must be re-established for placement in the Junior High Program. Students not qualifying will automatically take the InView test.

3. Placement Appeal Process.

- Parents or teachers who feel that further consideration should be given to the initial or continued placement of a student in the QUEST or Gifted Program may appeal this matter, which will be taken under advisement by the Coordinator of the District 96 QUEST/Gifted Program.
- Parents or teachers who wish to present a case for appeal should submit their request in writing to the building principal. The request should include a rationale as to why the student should be considered for program entry. The principal will forward the request to the Coordinator of the District 96 QUEST/Gifted Program.
- In cases where the student demonstrates high achievement scores (CogAT Score of 125-129) combined with a spring MAP Score of 97-99%ile, thereby earning a matrix score of 6 points, the student will be extended an invitation to take the InView test by letter which will include a copy of the identification matrix.
- The student's classroom teacher and/or parent will be given a Behavioral Characteristics Checklist to complete regarding the student's classroom performance.
- A matrix will be completed that includes the student's spring MAP score, the InView test score, and the Behavioral Characteristics Checklist score. The student must earn a matrix score of 8 points or higher to qualify for placement in the QUEST or Gifted Program.
- A copy of the completed matrix will be placed in the student's cumulative folder.

4. Annual Program Notification.

- Students continuing in the QUEST or Gifted Program and students new to the program will be notified by letter in May