



Frequently Asked Questions about the Gifted Academies @ Parkway Middle School and Plantation High School

What will make this program different from any other gifted program?

- Program will focus on social/emotional needs of gifted students not just academic
- Personalized learning paths for each individual student
- Provide enrichment clusters throughout the year based on student responses on interest surveys
- Competency based curriculum-students can move as fast as they can demonstrate mastery in a content area, no ceiling
- Project Based Learning imbedded in each core content class
- Students will be with like-minded peers
- Self-contained gifted classrooms with endorsed teachers
- All content courses will be offered in a separate Gifted Academy building
- Electives will be housed in other buildings and courses will be made up of gifted eligible and general education students
- Less emphasis on acceleration, more emphasis on enrichment (going deeper and broader not just faster)
- Technology use is an integral part of the program implementation
- Each student will be issued a laptop to enable access to curriculum 24/7
- Mentors assigned to each student with scheduled meeting times throughout the month
- A technology enhanced flexible learning environment where students can work collaboratively and independently on projects

What will the curriculum look like for students at the Gifted Academies?

- Students will be enrolled in the core content courses based on their individual levels
- Some courses will be offered through a blended approach (online content and teacher facilitated classes) through Canvas.
- Students will work in collaborative groups in each core content class to complete projects (going deeper and broader).

- Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement and IB courses will be available to all eligible student at Plantation High School. EMF, GEM, GEARS is available to students at Parkway Middle School.

What electives are offered at the Academies?

At Plantation High School the following electives are offered:

- World Languages: French, Spanish
- Academic Electives: African American History, AP Comp. Government and Politics, Legal Systems and Concepts, Criminal Justice, AP European History, Women's Studies Honors, AP Human Geography, Psychology Honors, AP Psychology, Debate Honors, Journalism (Yearbook and Newspaper)
- Additional Electives: JROTC, Physical Education (Basketball, Team Sports, Weight Training, Care and Prevention of Injuries), Performance Arts (Musical Theatre, Acting, Theater, Tech Theater Design, Art (2D Studio Art, Ceramics/Pottery, Portfolio Drawing, Portfolio 2D and 3 Honors, Creative Photography, AP Studio Art 2D), Music (Music of the World, Music Theory, Band, Instrumental Ensemble, Choir)
- Special Programs: Leadership Skills, Leadership Skills-Latinos in Action
- Vocational Programs: Computer Programming, Digital Design, Early Childhood Education, Allied Health Assisting, Horticulture Science and Services, Engineering Pathways, Aerospace Technologies, Business Management and Analysis, Building and Construction, Culinary Arts

At Parkway Middle School the following electives are offered:

- Performing Arts: Ballet, Chorus, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Modern Dance, Orchestra, Piano, Music Production, Technical Theatre (Production and Design), Theatre, Visual Arts, Sculpting
- STEM: Architectural and Engineering Design, Computer Science, Horticulture-Modern Food Production and Healthy Living, Robotics, Fashion Technology and Wearable Art, Performing Arts Technology, Sustainable Environmental Research and Design
- Other Electives: Foreign languages, Debate

Why program within a school rather than a stand-alone school?

- Looking to utilize existing space
- In order to have a stand alone school we would have to go through the boundary process to empty an existing building
- Easier to replicate and place in different areas instead of just one school

Are there any additional eligibility requirement besides being eligible for gifted?

- No. The only eligibility requirement to apply for the Gifted Academies is for the student to be eligible for gifted services.

Is there a deadline to complete the application?

- Applications will continue to be accepted until all seats are filled. Once the seats are filled, additional applications will be placed on a waiting list.

How and when will you place the students in the program?

- Invitations will go out to all current 2nd through 9th grade gifted eligible students (mail, email, robocalls, GAC, matriculation meetings and district meetings)
- Application will be available online
- Tours of the school will be available
- Open house for Parkway Middle School is scheduled for January 22, 2018 at 6:30 PM
- Open house for Plantation High School is scheduled for January 16, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Will this impact the teachers at the selected sites?

- The teachers who end up teaching the gifted endorsement have to eventually become gifted endorsed if they are not already.
- They can go on an out-of-field waiver and have three years to complete the endorsement
- Looking at existing staff at school and follow current staffing procedures

Will the selected sites have a PD impact on teachers?

- We will follow existing processes that we use in other – share the language that is used in the magnet programs. Collective bargaining agreement verbiage.
- Provide PD on site-personalized learning, gifted endorsement courses, enrichment, differentiation
- Blending learning courses for gifted endorsement

How will you measure success in this program?

- Increase enrollment
- Bring back students who have left our district schools
- Student achievement (EOC, AP pass rates, SAT/ACT, FSA)
- Student, parent, teacher surveys