

ELEMENTARY

- Endorsed Gifted Resource Teacher on staff in every elementary school
- Kindergarten service model includes response lessons and differentiation
- Grade 1-5 service model includes pullout and inclusion
- Universal screening to provide applicant pool for identification
- Differentiated services provided for classroom instruction
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Showcase of Excellence



MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Endorsed Gifted Resource Teacher on staff in every middle school
- Service model includes pullout and inclusion
- Advanced English and Advanced Science available in 8th grade
- Algebra, geometry and world language courses for high school credit
- Differentiated services provided for classroom instruction
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Fredericksburg Regional Governor's School
- Showcase of Excellence

HIGH SCHOOL

- Gifted Coordinator on staff in each high school
- The Commonwealth Governor's School
- Advanced courses, Advanced Placement, and Dual Enrollment available
- Independent Study Course and Mentor Apprenticeship Program
- Guidance services
- Summer Residential Governor's Schools
- Fredericksburg Regional Governor's School
- Showcase of Excellence



For additional information on the gifted program, please contact the Gifted Resource Teacher at your child's school or visit our Web site at: www.scs.k12.va.us.

Gifted Services



SPOTSYLVANIA
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



OUR PHILOSOPHY

Spotsylvania County Schools is committed to excellence in education for all students. All students are provided the opportunity to be academically challenged according to differences in physical, mental, emotional, and social growth. Students of all cultural and socio-economic backgrounds are considered for participation in the gifted program, with multiple criteria used to select students.

OUR MISSION

It is the mission of Spotsylvania County Schools to provide a gifted program that will challenge identified students to achieve excellence through enriched and innovative instruction.

In order to achieve this mission we will:

- Provide a quality and challenging curriculum
- Recruit and maintain a staff trained in gifted education
- In-service classroom teachers on how to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of gifted students



IS MY CHILD GIFTED?

The gifted child:

- Demonstrates independence, problem solving strategies, risk taking, and an attraction to the complex and abstract;
- Shows a passion for learning and a willingness to follow through with advanced tasks; and
- Is intrinsically motivated to achieve.
- Consistent demonstration of many, but not necessarily all of these behaviors, indicates a strong possibility of giftedness.



HOW IS POTENTIAL ASSESSED?

Each referred student will be screened for identification through:

- Aptitude tests which may include the Naglieri Nonverbal Aptitude Test or the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test
- Achievement tests which may include the Stanford Achievement Test or Standards of Learning
- Current or previous grades
- An assessment of student work submitted in a portfolio
- Rating scales completed by parents and teachers
- A record of observation of in-class behaviors is also available

IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Independent sources of information are used to create a pool of candidates. Any one of the following sources of information places a student in the screening pool. Referrals can be made by:

- Parent or community members
- Student through self-nomination or peer nomination
- Professional staff

(Forms are available from the Gifted Resource Teacher or the school office)

SERVICES

Identified gifted students will be cluster grouped in the regular classroom with a teacher who has received training in gifted education and differentiation strategies.

Grade level services will be provided for identified students (grades 1-8) with innovative and challenging curricula that build on the Standards of Learning and include convergent, divergent, visual spatial, evaluative thinking as well as research and affective skills.

Gifted resource teachers will monitor select Kindergarten students and provide differentiated instruction within the regular education classroom.

Gifted learners will work in small groups with their intellectual and academic peers, under the guidance of teachers trained in gifted education, so they can experience a stimulating learning environment and demonstrate the responsibilities of cooperation, self-discipline, and self-direction within the confines of the curricula.

