**Middle School GT Scheduling Guide**

Enrollment, Placement and Identification

* Students may attend/be enrolled in above grade level courses only after being formally accelerated through the process established by the state and managed by the Gifted & Talented office. There are a few exceptions to this:
	+ Beginning in 2016-2017, students who are enrolled in middle school gifted math classes will have a math subject acceleration automatically finalized in 8th grade as a result of their placement and prior assessment. No additional referral and testing are required.
	+ Students dually enrolled in 7th and 8th grade math in accordance with the guidelines and criteria established by the Curriculum Department will have a math subject acceleration automatically finalized in 7th grade as a result of their placement and prior assessment. No additional referral and testing are required.
	+ Students who earn high school credits through the credit flexibility program as a means of accessing higher level courses early are not considered accelerated by the state and do not need to go through the acceleration process.
	+ Students placed in higher level music, art, or foreign language classes based on a demonstration of proficiency or talent in accordance with procedures established by the Curriculum Department do not need to go through the acceleration process. (Example: students leaving a language immersion school need a language class beyond Spanish 1 or French 1; exceptional vocalist needing access to an ensemble typically reserved for upper classmen)

Scheduling

* *All buildings*: Students in grades 6-8 who are gifted in superior cognitive ability, creative thinking, or an academic area should be clustered together within their core content classes.
	+ The Gifted & Talented office will provide an initial list of these students/clusters in April and an updated list to reflect transfers and new enrollments the first week of August.
	+ No special course number or coding is required
* *All buildings*: Collaborate with the elementary and high schools in your feeder pattern to arrange scheduling of accelerated students who may need 6th grade or high school coursework.
* *All buildings*: Students participating in the full-time, off site gifted program will maintain primary enrollment in their home school of record (either by attendance area or lottery). The gifted program secretary will include a secondary enrollment in the program in Infinite Campus.
* *Buildings with Gifted Courses*: A section of English Language Arts using the gifted course number should be established at each grade level 6-8
	+ Only students identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability, reading, or creative thinking with a reading score at or above 85th percentile on a national test may be placed in these classes. The Gifted & Talented office will provide an initial list of these students in April and an updated list to reflect transfers and new enrollments the first week of August.
	+ The courses should be taught by an existing English Language Arts teacher on the building staff. The assigned teacher(s) should have skills in differentiating instruction for gifted learners and a willingness to plan/collaborate weekly with a gifted specialist. A gifted education endorsement on the license is preferred; a willingness to obtain an endorsement is encouraged.
	+ The course used in the schedule should be the course with the G at the end of the course number.
		- List the course names/numbers here
	+ Since the courses are taught by general education teachers, there is not class size limit less than or greater than any other district class size limits.
		- In the event of smaller classes, students who do not meet the placement criteria may NOT be placed in the class.
* *Buildings with Gifted Courses*: A section of mathematics using the gifted course number should be established at each grade level 6-8
	+ Only students identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability, math, or creative thinking with a math score at or above 85th percentile on a national test may be placed in these classes. The Gifted & Talented office will provide an initial list of these students in April and an updated list to reflect transfers and new enrollments the first week of August.
	+ The courses should be taught by an existing mathematics teacher on the building staff. The assigned teacher(s) should have skills in differentiating instruction for gifted learners and a willingness to plan/collaborate weekly with a gifted specialist. A gifted education endorsement on the license is preferred; a willingness to obtain an endorsement is encouraged.
	+ The course used in the schedule should be the course with the G at the end of the course number.
		- List the course names/numbers here
	+ The 7th and 8th grade class should be scheduled back to back and taught by the same teacher whenever possible. 7th graders will be enrolled in both.
	+ 8th grade students meeting the criteria who will not be taking Integrated Math I should be enrolled in the 8th grade gifted math class with the 7th grade students.
	+ Since the courses are taught by general education teachers, there is not class size limit less than or greater than any other district class size limits.
		- In the event of smaller classes, students who do not meet the placement criteria may NOT be placed in the class.
	+ These courses are different from the 7/8 dual enrollment pathway. Students who do not meet the eligibility for the gifted courses described here may participate in the 7/8 dual math enrollment in accordance with guidelines from the Curriculum Department.