



Gifted and Talented



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lopez Elementary School



The mission of the Lopez Gifted and Talented (GT) program is to maximize the potential of GT students by providing a program that will match the unique characteristics and needs of the students by offering a challenging and accelerated curriculum. Support for GT students begins with the classroom teacher in grades K-5. All Lopez teachers are trained in diverse instruction that allows students to progress at a pace appropriate to their abilities, talents and learning styles. 21st century skills are put into play at all levels. Inquiry and technology driven projects in science, geography and social studies are designed by classroom teachers and the GT teacher.

<https://lop.psdschools.org/academics/gifted-and-talented>



24

Average GT students

324

Total student enrollment



Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

Our daily "WIN" (What I Need) is our intervention/exploration block. GT and high achieving students have the opportunity to explore and extend their thinking for 30 minutes daily with advanced peers, using their creativity and technology to show their understanding of the objective. Students can select areas of study that interest them as well as provide opportunities to create projects and demonstrate knowledge to peers.

Mathematics: The needs of Gifted Math students are addressed in leveled groups and assignments within the homeroom classroom. Mathematic concepts and learning projects are also included during Enrichment pull-out classes with the GT teacher. GT and high achieving students in 5th

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

grade meet with the GT teacher for 30 minutes daily where they will explore and cover higher level math concepts, assignments and projects. Students will be assessed at the end of 5th grade for eligibility into the Accelerated Math Program which begins at middle school.

Literacy: The needs of Gifted Language Arts students are addressed in above-level readers and novels. Both in the regular classroom and in the pull-out Enrichment setting, instruction is student centered; discussion and written responses around themes and key concepts are developed. GT students have the opportunity to research and present a creative product related to a topic of interest.



Gifted and Talented Site Coordinator:

Cathy McCluskey | GT Site Coordinator/Teacher
cmcccluskey@psdschools.org 970-488-8827

Overview of the GT program at this school



Lopez's GT Program:

- Provides advanced learning experiences with appropriately higher learning standards
- Provides social and emotional learning
- Acknowledges strengths and interests and helps the student build on them to challenge themselves toward new horizons

Advanced Learning Plan process at this school



Gifted and Talented students at Lopez work with GT staff, teachers and parents to choose goals for their annual Advanced Learning Plan (ALP). According to CDE, a GT student has to choose an Achievement ALP goal and an Affective ALP goal each year. In addition to the general grade-level goal, we want students to select something they care about—something they really want to learn or really want to change. This ALP isn't about extra work—it's about "being the leader of my own learning."

Programming opportunities for GT students



- Grouping patterns (flexible, cluster and ability).
- Appropriate pacing through acceleration and curriculum compacting, and differentiated curriculum, instruction and assessment.
- Passion Projects - independent research

Enrichment opportunities for GT students during school



- WIN enrichment classes in Reading (and math for 5th grade)
- Math Contests
- Cross-grade buddies
- Student Lighthouse Team
- Lunch Bunches
- Find Your Voice Clubs

Enrichment opportunities for GT students before or after school



- Lego Robotics
- Chess Club
- Math Club
- Lopez News
- Choir
- BStrong BFit
- Martial Arts
- Art Club
- Knitting Club
- Battle of the Books
- Blooming Girls

For more information regarding some activity descriptions, please visit our Activities tab on the Lopez website at: <https://lop.pedschools.org/activities>

Affective programming for GT students



The social and affective needs of Gifted students are met in a variety of ways. Students learn to incorporate the 8 Habits into their daily lives and these values are consistently taught throughout the Leader in Me curriculum. Students also learn skills to help them be successful both academically and socially during their time with the GT teacher. They also meet with the school counselor once a month to focus on their annual affective goals. The GT Program provides opportunities for students to discuss struggles and achievements in a safe environment with a trusted adult and/or other GT students with similar needs.