



Gifted and Talented



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Preston Middle School



Our mission is to support the unique academic, social, and emotional needs of students with gifts and talents. We offer learning opportunities that encourage exploration in areas of interest, foster critical and creative thinking skills, develop intellectual curiosity and student achievement, provide relevant learning experiences, and create a responsive climate for gifted learners. This program is designed to inspire students to investigate their interests, develop their potential and become passionate, self-directed learners.

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



73

Average GT students

577

Total student enrollment



Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

In-class differentiation; accelerated math classes; inquiry projects; social and emotional interventions; independent study; challenge by choice opportunities. ability grouping; extended learning opportunities; after school enrichment opportunities.



Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

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Overview of the GT program at this school



Preston's GT Program:

- fostering talents in all children
- providing a broad range of advanced-level enrichment experiences for students
- offering advanced follow-up opportunities for young people based on their strengths and interests.
- exposure to a myriad of unique enrichments electives and extracurricular opportunities
- strengthening student affect, in addition to an appropriate academic schedule.

Advanced Learning Plan process at this school



Students create their Advanced Learning Plan Goals in the fall and work with their content area teachers or the GT coordinator throughout the school year to work towards and monitor these goals. ALP paperwork is sent home before Winter Break and again before the last day of school.

Programming opportunities for GT students



In-class differentiation; accelerated math classes; inquiry projects; social and emotional interventions; independent study; challenge by choice opportunities. ability grouping; extended learning opportunities; after school enrichment opportunities.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students during school



Enrichments list below may or may not be offered, depending on school scheduling. For more information regarding Elective and Enrichment course descriptions, please visit our website

- *Science Olympiad Enrichment*
- *Math Counts Enrichment*
- *Biotechnology Enrichment*
- *Interior Design Challenge*
- *Advanced Math Courses*
- *Exploring Engineering; Exploring Chemistry; Exploring Robotics; Exploring Technology*
- *Technology Electives/Enrichments (computers, 3d design; 21st century media; gaming)*
- *Cooking-Creative Foods Enrichment and International Foods Elective*
- *Band/Orchestra/Jazz Choir Electives and Enrichment*
- *Drama Elective and Musical Theatre Enrichment*
- *Chess Enrichment*
- *Book Club Enrichment*
- *Current World Affairs Enrichment*
- *Rocketry*
- *Programming Lights to Music Enrichment*
- *Outdoor Living and Adventure Education Elective*
- *Creative Writing/Poetry Enrichment*
- *Leadership Application Elective*
- *Foreign Language Electives (German, French and Spanish)*
- *Yearbook Elective*

Enrichment opportunities for GT students before or after school



- Lego Robotics
- Math Counts
- Science Olympiad
- Science Bowl
- Forensics and Debate
- Rocketry Club
- Sports
- G-STEM (Girls in STEM)
- Student initiated clubs

Affective programming for GT students



- Preston provides opportunities for students to develop strengths and interests during exploratory electives.
- Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) is a transition program for 6th grade students that includes intentional small group activities led by 8th grade peer leaders, socials for new students, and culture building.
 - Leadership is an elective course for 8th grade students. During this class, students are involved in community service, volunteering, mentoring small groups of 6th grade students, implementing positive campaigns throughout the school (kindness, activity nights, philanthropy).
 - Peace Circles are a social emotional component of the PE curriculum for 7th and 8th grade students.
 - Preston embraces the Expect Respect curriculum. This is a student and teacher led program that promotes positive school culture, kindness, and • upstanding behavior.
 - PAWS (positive choices, attitude, work ethic, sense of community): This is a school wide PBIS system to promote positive culture at Preston.

Grade-specific GT services



All three grade levels are offered the same opportunities within the Gifted and Talented arena.