
Gifted and Talented Education in Elementary School Frequently Asked Questions

How will my child be served in elementary school?

Atlanta Public Schools uses the Resource Model to serve elementary school students. The Resource Model allows students to be instructed by a gifted-endorsed teacher in an interdisciplinary enriched environment. The majority of schools serve their students once a week in a pull out manner. Some schools may serve their gifted students daily in the gifted and talented class. Both methods require the students to be served for a minimum of 225 minutes in grades K-3 and 250 minutes in grades 3-5. The Resource Model meets the requirements of the Georgia Board Rule 160-4-2-.38.

How many students are in Gifted and Talented classes at the elementary school?

According to Georgia Board Rule 160-4-2.38, the elementary school gifted class size limit is 17. For the 2014-2015 school year, the school district may draft a resolution to increase the gifted class size. If a resolution is created, the Office of Gifted and Talented Education will publish increases.

How is the Gifted and Talented curriculum different?

Atlanta Public Schools uses the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS) to inform all instructional practices. Meanwhile, gifted students engage in 2-4 interdisciplinary units throughout the year. Interdisciplinary units integrate any combination of Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and/or Science. The gifted and talented units will differentiate the CCGPS according to the following Gifted Standards:

- Advanced Critical Thinking
- Advanced Communication Skills
- Advanced Research Skills
- Creative Problem Solving

The difference is not in what is taught but how it is taught. Students will have opportunities to critically and creatively demonstrate their proficiency of the CCGPS in an academically enriched environment. They will practice advanced research skills, which will ultimately prepare them for advanced learning at the middle school, high school, and college levels.

How will my child be evaluated in the elementary school?

At the conclusion of a 9-12 week unit, students receive a gifted progress report. This summative assessment will evaluate their advanced critical thinking, creative problem solving, research, and communicative skills. This progress report is separate from the general education report card the student receives. If the gifted progress report suggests a student is having difficulty in the gifted and talented class, a parent conference will take place to discuss interventions and continuation options.

For additional information, contact the Office of Gifted and Talented Education (404) 802-7585.