

Dear SPARK GATE Families,

Welcome to SPARK GATE for 2024-2025! SPARK utilizes the resource delivery model, which means students receive one full day of service per week (5 segments). On their GATE day, students will join their homeroom classes for recess, specials, and lunch. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students need to bring GATE binders/folders to class each week, beginning the week of August 5th. First and second grade work will be housed in the GATE classroom and will be sent home at the conclusion of each unit of study. Students should report to homeroom classes and will be picked up by their GATE teacher according to the following schedule:

Teachers	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
R. Smith		3rd Grade	1st Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade
S. White	2nd Grade	3rd Grade		4th Grade	5th Grade

GATE classes will continue to provide rigorous instruction via multidisciplinary units that extend and enrich the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) and CCRPI standards. GATE teachers will also continue implementing and assessing APS Gifted Program Standards on GATE report cards. The gifted program instructional standards include:

- Advanced Research Skills and Methods (ARS)
- Creative Thinking and Problem Solving Skills (CTS)
- Higher Order and Critical Thinking Skills (HOTS)
- Advanced Communication Skills (ACS)
- Leadership (LEAD)
- Social & Emotional Learning (SEL)
- Global Citizenship (GCZ)
- Creativity (CRT)

The units of study are cumulative and build week to week, therefore it may be necessary for students to complete GATE assignments prior to attending class following an absence. We will use Google Classroom in our classes. *Email is the preferred method of contact.* Any schedule changes will be shared with teachers and parents so that students have materials/assignments for class. Note that APS has implemented a continuation policy for those students not meeting APS Gifted standards. After a conference with parents and the gifted instructor to determine student needs, any student failing to meet the academic requirements will be placed on probation. Visit the [APS GATE website](#) for more information.

We look forward to working with you and your child throughout the 2024-2025 school year! We are anticipating an engaging learning experience for all SPARK gifted students this school year! Please let us be your first line of communication for any questions or concerns. As a part of our ongoing communication, please take a few minutes to complete the [Parent Survey](#). Submit responses by **August 19th**.

We appreciate the support and dedication the SPARK community brings to our school and to the GATE Department. Here's to a spectacular 2024-2025 school year!

Sincerely,

Radijah Smith, contact: radiah.smith@atlanta.k12.ga.us

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