

August 4, 2025

Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to serve as the Heritage Academy Gifted and Talent Development Lead Teacher for another exciting year! This year we are focused on “Soaring Above and Beyond”! I have planned educational activities and experiences that will further enhance your child’s mastery of Georgia’s Standards of Excellence as we go above and beyond the regular curriculum. The students will have several opportunities to participate in competitions and field experiences that enhance our gifted and state standards.

We will kick off the year with Social Emotional Learning (SEL) activities in addition to our unit studies. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will focus on “Primary Education Thinking Skills” and “Loving Literature”. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class will also explore “Loving Literature” and “Science in the Kitchen”. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in the Atlanta Urban Debate League Elementary Division Tournaments (topic TBD) as well as “Science in the Kitchen”.

Our classes will officially start the week of August 25<sup>th</sup> (after MAP testing) but we may have an orientation class before then. In the meantime, I will be supporting the students in their general education classes. Classes will be held as follows:

Grade	Gifted/TD Resource
K	NA
1	Fridays 8:45-10:45 & 11:45- 1:45
2	Fridays 8:45-10:45 & 11:45- 1:45
3	Thursdays 8:00- 11:15 & 11:45- 12:30
4	Tuesdays 8:00- 12:00
5	Tuesdays 8:00- 12:00

Students will return to their homerooms for lunch, recess and specials.

Communication is an important part of the parent-teacher partnership. Here’s how I plan to communicate with you this year:

- Class Dojo: You can use the app or online website to get reminders, newsletters, messages, videos, and pictures! **This is my primary form of communication.**
- Email: [hrbrown@apsk12.org](mailto:hrbrown@apsk12.org) (preferred for detailed communications)
- School Phone: (404) 802-8650 or Cell/ Google Phone: (678) 885-7397 (text preferred)

I look forward to helping your children become Soaring Scholars this year!

Sincerely,

Heather R. Brown