

August 1, 2024

Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to serve as the Heritage Academy Gifted and Talent Development Lead Teacher for another wonderful year! We will have a lot of exciting learning experiences this school year. I have planned educational activities 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 educational activities and field experiences that explore our gifted standards. This year we are focused on "The Spectrum of Opportunities"!

We will kick off the year with Social Emotional Learning (SEL) activities as well as a return to Taking Wing (our birding curriculum) which will be infused throughout the school year. The 1<sup>st</sup> graders will explore our ecosystem in our first unit, "My Big Backyard". The 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade classes will explore topics around voting via "Your Voice, Your Vote". The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will explore voting rights in depth as they participate in the Atlanta Urban Debate League Elementary Division Tournaments.

Our classes will officially start the week of August 26<sup>th</sup> (after MAP testing). 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	Wednesdays 9:30-2:05
2	Tuesdays 8:15-9:45 & 12:00-2:10
3	Tuesdays 8:15-9:45 & 12:00-2:10
4	Thursdays 8:00-11:45
5	Thursdays 8:00-11:45

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