

August 11, 2023

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 being "Soaring Scholars."

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. My 1st through 3rd graders will explore animals in our first unit, "Zootopia". My 4th and 5th graders will explore problem-based learning via a variety of lessons as well as participate in the Atlanta Urban Debate League Elementary Division Tournaments. Their initial unit of study will be "The Science Behind Forensic Science" will start a few weeks after classes begin.

Our classes will officially start the week of August 28th. In the meantime, I will be supporting your student in their general education classes. Classes will be held as follows:

Gr.	Gifted/TD Resource	Talent Development Workshop	Collaboration/ Cluster Grouping
K	NA	Fridays 9:20-10:05	NA
1	Thursdays 8:30-10:30 & 12:45-2:30	Fridays 8:30-9:15	<i>Cluster Grouping</i>
2	Thursdays 8:30-10:30 & 12:45-2:30	Mondays 8:30-9:15	<i>Cluster Grouping</i>
3	Wednesdays 8:30--11:15 & 12:00-1:25	Mondays 9:45- 10:30	<i>Cluster Grouping</i>
4	Tuesdays 10:00-12:15 & 1:00-2:30	Mondays 10:45-11:25	Fridays 10:45-11:30
5	Tuesdays 10:00-12:15 & 1:00-2:30	Mondays 1:45- 2:30	Fridays 1:45- 2:30

Students in grades 1-3 are in homerooms with gifted-certified teachers and will receive additional services through cluster grouping in Social Studies. I will support 4th and 5th grade students via collaboration in Social Studies. Students will return to their homerooms for lunch 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 (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

P.S. Please use this QR code to complete a parent information google form.

