



Blevins Middle School



The Blevins Gifted and Talented Program acknowledges the accelerated student's academic and social-emotional needs and supports growth and achievement with differentiated learning in classroom curriculum and through GT small group enrichments. Additionally, there are a wide range of extracurricular opportunities, including school and community-based experiences.

The Blevins GT site coordinator and staff provide a responsive climate and relevant learning experiences that foster intellectual curiosity and critical and creative thinking for high student achievement. We provide opportunities for exploration in areas of personal interest through student-selected pathways.

<https://ble.psdschools.org/academics/gifted-talented>



51

Average GT students

428

Total student enrollment



Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

All identified GT students meet once a week with the GT site coordinator during ELO in their grade-level group. During this time, students engage in enrichments based on their pathway group (6th: social emotional; 7th: academic; 8th: service learning) and check in on their ALP goals. Additionally, students meet once a week in their grade-level Homeroom.



Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

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Overview of the GT program at this school



Blevins GT Program:

In the classroom

- Content area teachers work with GT students directly to differentiate instruction.
- GT students are given more challenging and/or creative work to complete.
- Students also take specialty elective classes in their area of interests during ELO (extended learning opportunity).
- Grade-level GT Homerooms.
- Once a week grade-level GT enrichments during ELO.

Out of the classroom

- We offer a variety of additional opportunities for students beyond the school day (such as field trips and pop up classes/presentations based on grade-level pathway groups and student interest).
- Regular parent newsletters to provide support for our GT parent population.

Advanced Learning Plan process at this school



- We hold an initial student meeting during grade-level Homeroom to initiate annual ALP goal setting.
- Students and GT site coordinator together create ALPs in small groups by the middle of October.
- Students participate in additional enrichments during ELO and work with their content area teachers for academic support and extension.
- We revisit goals in January and again at the end of the year.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students during school



- **Accelerated Math:** PSD utilizes an accelerated math program in which 5th graders are assessed and potentially placed in 7/8th grade math as 6th graders. At this point, students continue to learn math skills at a higher grade-level than their age peers. The program is vertically aligned so that students can continue to grow in advanced math throughout high school.
- **Extended Learning Opportunities:** Blevins Middle School offers gifted services through the Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) time that is built into the schedule. In these classes, content is offered in an area of interest (math, reading, or writing) or in a structure that allows gifted students to pursue an area of interest in a more in-depth manner.
- **Grade-Level Enrichments:** Once a week during ELO time, students meet in grade-level groups to engage in enrichments based on their pathway group (6th: social emotional; 7th: academic; 8th: service learning)
- **In-class Differentiation:** This service is offered by Blevins Middle School teachers within the classroom setting. Teachers pre-assess and adjust the

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

curriculum as needed in order to create respectful tasks for advanced learners. Some strategies might include accelerated pace, choice in content, open-ended projects, more complexity and depth, etc. Differentiation should not result in MORE work for a gifted learner; rather, it is different work.

- **Other Enrichment Opportunities:** We offer pathway-based enrichment opportunities, such as field trips and guest presentations/lessons.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students after school



We offer a multitude of school-sponsored activities and organizations that extend our students' learning and leadership opportunities beyond the classroom and allow them to make positive contributions to the Blevins community. For more information, please visit our "Athletics" tab and "Clubs & Activities" tab at the Blevins website: ble.psdschools.org.

As other outside of school enrichment opportunities come up, the GT site coordinator will email parents/guardians and students.

Affective programming for GT students



GT students are grouped into grade-level Homerooms to discuss issues that affect their social/emotional well-being. Some of these issues might address peer relationships, academic and achievement expectations, perfectionism, post-secondary preparation, challenge, etc.

Grade-specific GT services



Weekly ELO enrichments are based on grade-level pathway groups (6th: social emotional; 7th: academic; 8th: service learning). Pathway-based guest presentations/lessons are also offered. As these come up throughout the school year, students and parents/guardians will be notified.