



Gifted and Talented



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School



With approximately one third of the student population in gifted and talented education, Kinard has a thriving GT Program where students are authentically engaged in learning experiences to achieve their academic and affective ALP goals. Kinard is dedicated to ensuring high levels of learning for all students and fosters a safe community where staff are responsive to the individual needs of students. Kinard's GT Site Coordinator analyzes all academic data for incoming and newly enrolled students and establishes fidelity in the identification process by recognizing all factors including culturally, linguistically diverse and/or twice-exceptional characteristics. In addition to creating authentic learning experiences for students with ALPs, the GT Coordinator collaborates with teachers to support the advanced academic needs of learners in the GT program for their continued successful growth and achievement in knowledge, essential skills and Kinard character. Kinard offers a wide array of accelerated options, enrichment opportunities and leadership service programs that enhance learning for gifted and talented education.

<https://bit.ly/KINARDGT>



240

Average GT students

768

Total student enrollment



Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

Sixth through eighth graders who meet the academic qualifications have opportunities for accelerated math courses, and all students are also offered world language courses. Seventh and eighth graders can apply for honors courses in English, Science, Social Studies, Select Choirs, Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra. Kinard's Gifted and Talented Program focuses on development of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication. Students with ALPs explore areas of interest through inquiry projects, career mentorship, college visits, service learning, philanthropy, innovation in technology and media, performing and visual arts, content extensions and ability grouping.



Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

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Overview of the GT program at this school



Kinard's GT Program:

- Encompasses 240+ students identified for Gifted and Talented with Advanced Learning Plans.
- Establishes fidelity in the identification process by recognizing all essential factors including culturally, linguistically diverse and twice-exceptional characteristics.
- Develops authentic ALPs aligned to Colorado gifted and talented state standards with goal choice options that inspire and challenge students to achieve at high levels.
- Focuses on strength-based approaches to advance students' knowledge and skills.
- Provides learning experiences beyond the classroom with real world connections.
- Connects students with similar interests through a wide variety of enrichment opportunities.
- Provides extensions for deeper inquiry into the Core Knowledge curriculum.
- Empowers students' personal and future success through the Colorado Essential Skills.
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Advanced Learning Plan process at this school



Students create their Advanced Learning Plan Goals in September and meet with the GT coordinator at a minimum of four times per year in small groups based on their ALP goal choices. Advanced Learning Plans are mailed home before Winter Break and before the last day of school.

Programming opportunities for GT students



Accelerated math classes for high school credit; honors courses in English, science and social studies; Select Choirs, Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra; ALP goal choice options including inquiry projects, career mentorship, college visits, service learning, philanthropy, innovation in technology and media, performing and visual arts, content extensions, ability grouping, cluster grouping and world language courses for high school credit.

Enrichment opportunities for GT students during school



For more information please visit our website at: <https://kin.psdschools.org/academics/challenge> and for details on course descriptions, please visit <https://kin.psdschools.org/students>

- Accelerated math courses for high school credit
- Art: visual, pottery/sculpture
- Creative Foods (sewing and cooking)
- Drama
- [Environmental Leadership](#)
- Entrepreneurship
- [Give Next Philanthropy](#)
- [Global Leadership](#)
- Honors: English, science and social studies
- [Kinard CARES](#)
- [Lego Robotics](#)
- Music: Advanced [Choir](#), [Band](#) and [Orchestra](#)
- Mustang Media/Tech
- Science Adventures
- Tech/Engineering: 21st Cent.; App design; Photography; 3D modeling; Programming
- WEB Program
- World Language courses
- Yearbook

Enrichment opportunities for GT students before or after school



- Athletics
- Chess Club
- Computer Club
- Fitness Club
- Fitness Club
- Math Counts
- NaNoWriMo Novel Writing Club
- National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)
- Science Fair Club
- Science Olympiad
- [Student-led Clubs](#)
- Theatre Club

Affective programming for GT students



At Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School, students are empowered to achieve personal and academic growth, exploration for college and career readiness, and are supported in their general wellness and mental health through a team approach led by Kinard's school counselors, and in collaboration with teachers and the Kinard GT Program. The Kinard GT Program specifically develops capacity through aligning the ALP Affective Goal choices to the Colorado Essential Skills state standards. Students and parents are provided with the Essential Skills from CDE to discuss and select a relevant and authentic affective goal. Students in the GT program complete check-ins and a reflection with the GT Site Coordinator on their progress towards their goal. Additionally, there are ELO small groups available for more in-depth goal choices where students have opportunity to discuss challenges and successes in a safe environment with a school counselor and with other students who share similar affective goals. For more on the Colorado Essential Skills, please visit: [Colorado Essential Skills](#)

Grade-specific GT services



Students in 6th-8th grade can attend CSU's Engineering Day, held during the spring, with a math ALP goal. Short term career mentorships are also possible options as an ALP Achievement goal for students across grade levels. These opportunities allow students in Kinard's GT Program to connect academically and socially with their community while exploring their individual interests. In career mentorships, the student conducts an individual interview or, with a parent, makes a site-visit to the community member's place of work. For all 8th graders with ALPs, there are opportunities through the Kinard GT Program for college visits to Colorado higher education institutions (CU Denver, School of Mines, UNC, CSU) during the school year.