



Gifted and Talented



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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 ALP goals.



60

Average GT students

375

Total student enrollment

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



Programming Opportunities for Gifted Learners

All identified GT students meet once a week during Homeroom in their grade-level group. Additionally, a variety of monthly in-school enrichments are offered based on students' interests in the areas of academics, service-learning, or social-emotional. Every other Monday, students can come meet in the GT site coordinator's room during PBL to work on ALP goals, connect with other GT students across grade levels, or just check in with the site coordinator. We offer two outside-of-

Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

school field trips each year: one in the fall for all GT students, and one in the spring for GT 8th graders.



Gifted and Talented site coordinator:

Monica Jankow | GT Coordinator/Identification/ALPs/Academic services support
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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 their regular elective time and during Period 6 PBL (Project Based Learning).
- Grade-level GT Homerooms.
- Once a month enrichments during PBL.
- Bi-monthly Monday PBL "think tank time" with the GT site coordinator.

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).
- After-school Bruin Club (open to all students).
- 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 (along with the support of parents/guardians and the GT site coordinator) create ALP goals during September.
- Students participate in additional enrichments during electives, PBL Mondays, and outside of school as needed, as well as work with their content area teachers for academic support and extension.
- Students reflect on goals quarterly with their Homeroom teacher and twice a year with the GT site coordinator.

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 middle and high school.

| Site-Based Gifted and Talented Services Overview

- **Project Based Learning:** Blevins Middle School offers gifted services through the Project Based Learning (PBL) 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.
- **In-class Differentiation:** This service is offered by Blevins Middle School teachers within the classroom setting. Teachers pre-assess and adjust the 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 a variety of enrichment opportunities, such as:
 - Monthly enrichments (guest presentations/lessons)
 - Field trips

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 grade-level GT Homerooms are a way for students to connect with grade-level GT peers through regularly scheduled Homeroom activities and other GT-specific activities. GT Homeroom is also a time that the GT site coordinator can connect and check in with students and make announcements, give reminders, and offer general support in Homeroom.