

Elementary High Ability Learner Program

Three levels of service for elementary high ability learners are provided in the Millard Public Schools.

I. District Level Services:

Programs and curricula that are offered to all students in all buildings include:

Language Arts:

The Elementary HAL program is a district-developed curriculum that consists of the following:

- Grades K-2 Kaleidoscope Reading: Teachers use first quarter to get acquainted with their students and establish classroom routines. All teachers select students to participate in pre-identification activities throughout the year prior to formal identification at the end of 2nd grade. Student activities include applying Bloom's Taxonomy, questioning skills, literature extensions, letter and word play, analogies, critical thinking, and problem solving. Select students will complete literature extension units matching the *Wonders* themes.

Kindergarten Themes and Kaleidoscope Reading Titles

Unit 3/Going Places: *Ira Sleeps Over*

Unit 7/The Animal Kingdom: *Make Way for Ducklings*

1st Grade Themes and Kaleidoscope Reading Titles

Unit 3/Changes Over Time: *Dinosaurs Before Dark*

Unit 4/Animals Everywhere: *Olivia* or *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*

Unit 5/Figure It Out or Unit 6/Together We Can: *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*

2nd Grade Themes and Kaleidoscope Reading Titles

Unit 1/Friends and Family: *Chocolate by Hershey* (or with Unit 5) or *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* (or with Unit 2)

Unit 2/Animal Discoveries: *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* (or with Unit 1)

Unit 5/Let's Make a Difference: *Chocolate by Hershey* (or with Unit 1)

- Grades 3-5 Compass Reading: For each unit in the *Wonders* curriculum, high ability reading students will complete a literature extension. Each extension focuses on theme while reading a novel, and a "Thinking Theme Framework" is the basis of study for each of the units.

3rd Grade Themes and Compass Reading Titles

Unit 1/Growing and Learning: *The Royal Bee* or *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*

Unit 2/Figure it Out: *The Mulberry Project*, *Castle in the Attic*, or *Little House in the Big Woods*

Unit 3/One of a Kind: *Becoming Naomi Leon*, *Because of Winn Dixie*, or *Ruby Holler*

Unit 4/Meet the Challenge: *City of Ember*, *Esperanza Rising*, or *Teammates*

Unit 5/Take Action: *The Toothpaste Millionaire*, *Lemonade War*, or *The Get Rich Quick Club*

Unit 6/Think It Over: *Cricket in Times Square*, *Earthquake Terror*, or *Hoot*

4th Grade Themes and HAL Titles

Unit 1/Think it Through: *My Side of the Mountain*, *On the Far Side of the Mountain*, *Hatchet*, or *A Single Shard*

Unit 2/Amazing Animals: *Flue's Journey*

Unit 3/That's the Spirit!: *Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs*, *Number the Stars*, or *Snow Treasure*

Unit 4/Fact or Fiction: *Ben and Me*
Unit 5/Figure it Out: *The Egypt Game* or *Chasing Vermeer*

5th Grade Themes and HAL Titles

Unit 1/Eureka! I've Got It!: *A Wrinkle in Time*
Unit 2/Taking the Next Steps: *Island of the Blue Dolphin* or *Brian's Winter*
Unit 3/Getting from Here to There: *The Green Glass Sea*
Unit 4/It's Up to You: *Zach's Lie*, *The Second Mrs. Giaconda*, or *The Westing Game*
Unit 5/What's Next?: *Sing Down the Moon*, *Johnny Tremain*, or *Old Willis Place*
Unit 6/Linked In: *Breaking Through*

Math:

The district High Ability Learner Math Program for identified elementary students is provided within the Tier I curriculum around various mathematical concepts that will enrich and accelerate their current mathematical knowledge. Using the Math Expressions Inquiry Task Cards and the Habits of Mind Reflection Questions, the classroom teacher will facilitate math extensions within the Mastery Learning Loop and small group instruction time.

Visual-Spatial:

The K-2 Kaleidoscope and Grades 3-5 Compass Programs for students with Visual-Spatial skills provide activities that extend and enrich these processes through thinking, relating, generating, reasoning, visualizing, and learning.

The Arts:

Services in the arts has two major components; Honors Choir and Orff Schulwerk Honors Ensemble (OSHE).

- **The Honors Choir** is a performance group for High Ability Learners in the area of Vocal Music. The choir consists of 50-75 4th and 5th grade students from across the district. Students will sing from unison, two and three part vocal music scores. Musical selections are of the highest caliber selected from the repertoire of children's choruses across the country i.e. Nebraska Children's Chorus, St. Louis, Seattle Girls Choir, Chicago, and The American Boys Choir.
- **The Orff-Schulwerk Ensemble (OSHE)** is an experiential and performance group for High Ability Learners in the area of music and movement. An ensemble generally has between 25 and 30 students. At the present time, this program is serving only 5th grade students from across the district. As part of the program, students sing, speak, move, and play percussion instruments; they are also involved in composition and improvisation. OSHE meets for a minimum of six combined hours plus performance opportunities.

Independent Study:

This program is designed for students who desire more knowledge about a topic they may have been studying in their classroom, distinguish themselves because of the questions they ask, display an intense interest in a topic, or show a continuous love of learning. Independent study allows the learner to pursue a topic of his or her choice using a wide variety of primary and secondary resources. The student shares his or her learning with an appropriate audience, such as a parent, teacher or other students. The independent study program is meant to be a collaborative effort between teachers, specialists, parents and students.

II. Building Level Services:

Reflect the needs and resources of individual schools. These services represent unique ways students can be challenged to "stretch" a little further. Programs may include:

- Word Masters
- Stock Market Club
- Math Olympiad
- Science Fair
- Pentathlon Tournament
- Artists in Residence
- Foreign Language Explorations
- MAD Science
- Destination Imagination
- Drama
- Book Club
- Technology Projects
- Cyber Trips
- Field Trips

III. Classroom Level Services:

These services are based on differentiation, which is an approach to planning and teaching that addresses the needs of all students. Differentiation involves varied approaches to curriculum, instruction, and assessment. Educators differentiate to adapt content (what is taught), process (how it is taught), and product (what the student does) to the unique learning needs, readiness, interest and style of each student.