



Kirby School District 140 Gifted Education

(G.A.T.E. - 3rd-5th grades / Honors - 6th-8th grades)

Kirby School District 140 strives to meet the needs of gifted and talented students. Certified staff work to provide meaningful activities for students in the core academics. The programs are designed to refine and develop skills in areas such as critical thinking, problem solving, research and independent study. Students will be screened at the end of the 2nd and 5th grade in order to identify those who qualify for the G.A.T.E. or Honors Programs. Students who transfer into a District 140 facility are screened upon recommendation of their teacher or parents after nine weeks of enrollment. To be included in the G.A.T.E. or Honors Programs, all students must meet standards established in a selection matrix.

KIRBY SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
Tinley Park, IL

John A. Bannes School
Mr. Terrance J. Kowalski, *Principal*

Fernway Park School
Mrs. Carol A. Novak, *Principal*

Helen Keller School
Mrs. JoAnn Greene, *Principal*

Christa McAuliffe School
Mrs. Margaret Sheehan, *Principal*

Millennium Elementary School
Mrs. Mary Jo Werbiansky, *Principal*



Gifted and Talented Enrichment Program

G.A.T.E.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Gifted and Talented Enrichment Program in School District 140 was developed to meet the unique needs of its gifted and talented students. The District is committed to providing the best educational opportunities for the full development of individuals to the extent resources and efforts can be deployed.

Those students who demonstrate superior talents and/or abilities in specific areas need a qualitatively differentiated program in which to reach optimal development of those talents. To that end, the District commits itself to providing appropriate programs and materials within the constraints of its fiscal and human resources.

At identified grade levels, skills in critical thinking, creative problem-solving, research, independent study, and the use of technology are stressed. These skills will be the foundation of learning processes the students will utilize throughout their lives.

IDENTIFICATION

The components used to determine eligibility for the Gifted and Talented Enrichment Program (G.A.T.E.) are:

- achievement test scores (MAP – Measure of Academic Progress)
- teacher recommendations
- report card grades

Students who meet the standards are admitted, and their parents are notified.

All District students are screened at the end of 2nd grade for enrollment into the program. Students who transfer into the District are screened upon the request of their teachers or parents.

GRADES 3 – 5

- differentiated instruction in and out of regular classroom
- multidisciplinary units in and out of regular classroom
- resource consultation by gifted education staff

GRADES 3 – 5 (cont.)

- other activities as designed by gifted education staff and classroom teacher

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT

- Possesses diverse, spontaneous and frequently self-directed interests
- Uses a large number of words easily and accurately
- Asks questions and seeks to know causes and reasons
- Learns to read at an early age and continues to read at an advanced level
- Learns rapidly, easily and with less repetition
- Has a long attention span
- Likes to study subjects that are difficult because he/she enjoys learning
- Knows about many things, which grade-level peers are unaware
- Shows a high degree of originality and often uses unusual methods or ideas
- Analyzes problems quickly
- Is adept in analyzing self abilities and limitations
- Evaluates facts and arguments critically