

PROPOSAL

Gifted, Talented, and Enrichment Program 2021-22 School Year

I. NAME OF PROGRAM

Donald O. Shelton Program for the Gifted and Talented and TPS District-wide Enrichment

II. NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF NEED

Trenton Public Schools has students that qualify for Gifted and Talented services. In order to meet the needs of this program, we need to provide them with opportunities for curriculum acceleration, curriculum compacting, and enrichment opportunities. Additionally, the enrichment opportunities should extend to all students to increase engagement in student learning.

III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND RATIONALE

Program Overview

As of September 2021, Trenton Public School students will have access to Gifted, Talented, and Enrichment services. There will be three pathways to access these services. The first pathway will occur through Enrichment opportunities that all students will have access to in every school building. The second pathway will occur in all school buildings where Gifted students will have access to curriculum compacting and accelerated courses. The third pathway will be the Donald O. Shelton Magnet Program for the Gifted and Talented. The magnet program will service students who are above grade level in reading, mathematics, and nonverbal abilities and require services and challenges above and beyond what is logistically possible in their home schools. Below is a description of the magnet program, enrichment opportunities, and school-based services.

Curriculum

Magnet Program

The Donald O. Shelton Gifted and Talented Program will be hosted in Jefferson Elementary School in the 2021-22 school year. The magnet program will service students in grades 2-5 during the 2021-22 school year. One grade level will be added every school year until the the program services students in grades 2-8. Students will receive accelerated instruction, which will provide students opportunities to complete Geometry or Algebra II and Physics by the end of 8th grade. On average, students will be expected to complete 1.5 years of Literacy and Math instruction within one school year. Curriculum at the magnet program will be integrated. There will be a humanities block, a STEM block, specials (Computer Science; Instrumental Music; Health & Physical Education; and Art), and an enrichment period.

Instruction will be accelerated. Based on the student pre-assessment data, students will be able to skip content that they have already mastered to tackle more challenging material. The goal is for every student to be able to move through grade levels at an accelerated pace. Through an integrated curriculum (ELA-Social Studies and Math-Science), students will be able to engage in cross-curricular project-based learning that allows them to address the performance objectives for each content together. Additionally, students will be able to choose projects of their interest from Renzulli Learning as well as engage in projects their teachers co-planned together.

All students will also have opportunities to participate in a variety of enrichment activities and engage in competitions in the following areas: creative writing; poetry slams; Continental Math League; Math Olympiads; Mercer Science and Engineering Fair; FIRST Lego Robotics League; Odyssey of the Mind, and a Social Justice Debate Team.

Magnet School Sample Schedule

Course	Time
STEM	8:45 - 10:55
Special	11-11:40
Lunch	11:40 - 12:20
Enrichment	12:25 - 1:05
Humanities	1:10 - 3:15

2nd - 8th Grade School Based Gifted, Talented, and Enrichment Services

Students who qualify for Gifted and Talented services who do not attend the magnet school will have access to the following:

- Accelerated/Honors' Courses: Students will be able to take accelerated math and literacy courses.
- Curriculum Compacting in ELA and Math: Based on the student pre-assessment data, students will be able to skip content that they have already mastered to tackle more challenging material.
- Enrichment Activities: All Trenton Public School students in all schools will have access to enrichment activities listed above.
- Access to Algebra I and Physics: 8th graders

9-12 Gifted and Talented Opportunities

Gifted and Talented students will automatically articulate into the Early College High School program upon entering 9th grade. The Early College High School initiative allows students to take dual credit college courses while in high school and graduate with college credits with the option of early graduation. Students may articulate into colleges we are partnering with, such as Mercer County Community College, The College of New Jersey, and Rutgers University.

Table of Opportunities

	Pathway 1 - Enrichment All Students	Pathway 2 - G&T School Based Services	Pathway 3 - G&T Magnet Program
Integrated Blocks [Humanities/STEM]			X
Daily Enrichment Period			X
School Based Enrichment Period		X	
After School Enrichment Programs	X	X	X
Integrated STEM and Humanities Project Based Learning			X
Automatic Enrollment into Early College High School			X
Access to enrollment in Early College High School pending qualifications	X	X	
Accelerated ELA and Math		X	X
Curriculum Compacting		X	X

Project Based Learning	X	X	X
First Lego League Robotics	X	X	X
Continental Math League and MOEMS	X	X	X
Creative Writing, Poetry, and Essay Competitions	X	X	X
Mercer Science and Engineering Fair	X	X	X
District Humanities and STEM Fair	X	X	X
Coding and Computer Science	X	X	X

Below are definitions of terms mentioned in this proposal.

- Renzulli Learning: Renzulli Learning is a system that provides students with project-based learning activities and allows them to connect with students around the world to work on projects together. This system also provides students with strength finding and interest assessing activities where students use the results to choose projects that match their strengths and interests. For more information, please see <https://renzullilearning.com/>
- Arts 4 Any Given Child: The Arts 4 Any Given Child Initiative is a partnership between Trenton Public Schools and outside organizations which invest in ensuring that all students have access to a high-quality arts education. They will work with our schools to connect arts with core educational subjects. For more information, please see <https://www.arts4agctrenton.org/>
- Continental Math League: Continental Math League is a national math problem solving competition that students compete in. It involves practicing multi-step word problems throughout the year in order to compete with their peers. For more information, please see <https://www.cmleague.com/product-category/cml/>
- Mathematical Olympiads for Elementary and Middle Schools (MOEMS): MOEMS is an international math competition where our students can compete in teams against students from all over the world. For more information, please see <http://www.moems.org/>
- Mercer Science and Engineering Fair: Mercer Science and Engineering Fair allows students to submit individual science fair projects or engineering projects and compete with students from all over Mercer County. For more information, please see <https://mercersec.org/>

- FIRST Lego Robotics League (FLL): FLL is a robotics challenge where students enter competitions to compete locally and then nationally. FLL provides a challenge in which students must build and program robots to solve. They then go on to demonstrate their solutions and compete with their peers locally and nationally. For more information, see <https://www.firstlegoleague.org/>
- Odyssey of the Mind: Odyssey of the Mind is a global problem-solving competition. Students compete in teams on problems against their peers. For more information, see <https://www.odysseyofthemind.com/>

Identification Process

There will be a point system for entry into the program that will contain both objective and alternative measures. Any student who qualifies utilizing objective measures will automatically qualify for gifted services and will not need to submit any alternative measures. Students who do not attain the minimum number of points can submit alternative measures that will be scored based on a rubric. If afterwards they attain enough points, they will be entered into the Gifted and Talented Program.

- Any student who attains 24 points qualifies for Gifted services.
- Students will be offered entrance into the magnet program in order of total objective points from greatest to least. There are 24 possible objective points out of 32 possible total points.
- They must maintain their points on a yearly basis as well as earn an 80 average to stay in the magnet program.

Objective Criteria

Students in grades 1-9 take a nationally normed assessment three times per year. They are then ranked nationally against all other students who took the assessment. This ranking is called percentile rank. A 91 PR means a student was in the top 10% of the nation on that assessment. An 81 PR means a student was in the top 20% of the nation on that assessment and so-on.

Universal Screener	Percentile Rank/Points	Percentile Rank/Points	Percentile Rank/Points	Percentile Rank/Points
Reading	90-99 PR	80-89 PR	70-79 PR	60-69 PR
Reading	10 Points	8 Points	6 Points	4 Points
Math	90-99 PR	80-89 PR	70-79 PR	60-69 PR
Math	10 Points	8 Points	6 Points	4 Points
Nonverbal	90-99 PR	83-89 PR	75-82 PR	N/A
Nonverbal	10 Points	8 Points	6 Points	N/A

Alternative Criteria

For students who do not automatically qualify, they can have their administrator, teacher, guidance counselor, etc. submit a Gates 2 Gifted and an alternative assessment in the form of a student product [Project; Essay; Video Performance] that will be scored using rubrics in order to qualify for Gifted and Talented services. Each will be scored utilizing a 4-point rubric. Therefore, if a student only attained 16 points on the objective criteria, but earns 8 points on the alternative criteria, they will qualify for Gifted and Talented services.

The rubric for the projects and recommendation letters will be made available to students prior to submission.

Criteria	Percentile Rank/Points	Percentile Rank/Points	Percentile Rank/Points	Percentile Rank/Points
Gates 2 Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scale	90-99 PR or Equivalent	83-89 PR or Equivalent	75-82 PR or Equivalent	N/A
	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	N/A
Student submitted project/essay	Meets all 4 Requirements on Rubric	Meets 3 out of 4 Requirements on Rubric	Meets 2 out of 4 Requirements on Rubric	Meets 1 out of 4 Requirements on Rubric
	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point

Year 1

Since no students have taken the nonverbal assessment year 1, the 6-10 points available from that assessment will not be accessible to students. Therefore, for the 2021-22 school year, 16 points will be the total points a student needs to earn to receive Gifted and Talented services.

IV. PROGRAM EVALUATION

- The program will be evaluated via.
 - o Universal screener percentile rank
 - o State Assessment scores
 - o Students' Grade Point Averages
 - o Performance in Enrichment Competitions
 - o Mercer Science and Engineering Fair Participation
 - o Focus Walk Data
 - o Student Projects and Performances

V. PROGRAM BUDGET DETAIL

A. Magnet School Costs

- o Principal [As per TASA Contract]
- o 5 Gifted and Talented Teachers [As per TEA Contract]
- o 4 Specials' Teachers [As per TEA Contract]
- o Ravens Nonverbal Assessment = \$21,600
- o Renzulli Onsite Training = \$11,000
- o Renzulli Learning Licenses = \$4,000
- o Eureka Math Consumable Textbooks = \$3,616
- o Eureka Manipulative Kits = \$1,100
- o Khan Academy Partnership = \$847.50
- o Zearn Licenses = \$2,500
- o Lego Robotics Kits = \$16,000
- o Continental Math League Team Fees = \$180
- o MOEMS Team Fee = \$119
- o FLL Team Fees = \$225
- o Odyssey of the Mind Fees = \$135
- o GATES 2 - Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales (4) = \$568
- o August 2021 Curriculum Writing and Professional Development
 - 5 teachers
 - 640 hours total
 - \$23,040 total program
- o Billboards for Advertising = \$3,396.09
- o 250 Posters for Advertising = \$117.50
- o Newspaper Ads = \$500

B. District Enrichment Costs

- a. After School Creative and Informational Writing Clubs = 30 weeks x 24 teachers x 2 hours x \$42 per hour = \$60,480
- b. Robotic Stipends = 100 hours per year x \$42 per hour x 21 teachers = \$88,200
- c. Robotics Teams for Competition = \$235 per team x 1 team = \$235
- d. Coding Stipends = 100 hours per year x \$42 per hour x 15 teachers = \$63,000
- e. Competitive Math Teams 30 weeks x 24 teachers x 2 hours x \$42 per hour = \$60,480

TOTAL COST OF PROGRAM: \$361,339.09