

McAuliffe Gifted and Talented Frequently Asked Questions

Acronyms

GT= Gifted and Talented

HGT= Highly Gifted and Talented

ALP=Advanced Learning Plan

BOE=Body of Evidence

What is an ALP?

An ALP is an Advanced Learning Plan that informs parents, students and teachers of the student's individual strength areas. This is where students write two goals for the year, one affective, usually written around a personal growth area, and one academic, usually written around a strength area.

What is an affective goal?

An affective goal is more of a social-emotional goal; maybe your student needs or wants to work on organization, self-advocacy, leadership or time-management skills. Maybe he or she wants to get more involved in activities in school or concentrate on a passion project. The affective goal will help them focus on personalized self-improvement.

How did my student get identified?

Your student could have been identified from a number of different pieces of data: CSAP/TCAP scores, teacher inventory, parent inventory, SRI/DRA or other reading scores. *The identification process is changing for the 2015-2016 school year so the process may vary going forward.*

My student was identified in another school district, how do I get them identified in DPS?

Have your previous school district send results of any recent (within in the last two years) standardized tests, intelligence or creativity tests to the GT coordinator at Becky_middleton@dpsk12.org. She will start a Body of Evidence (BOE) file on your student and

submit it to the district for approval when enough evidence has been received.

How does GT work at McAuliffe?

Because over half of our students at McAuliffe are identified GT and HGT, we do not use a traditional “pull out” or “push in” model. Instead, the Advanced Learning Plan, or ALP, informs the classroom teachers of each student’s strengths so that the teacher can differentiate through in-class flexible grouping and content extension. The way for students to get involved with GT program is to participate in one or more of the GT enrichment activities.

How can I get the most out of the ALP?

Review your goals often to make sure you are on track. Talk to you teachers in your strength areas to make sure you are making good progress in class and do a mental check-in to make sure you are pushing yourself and not sliding by. Have frequent check-ins with your ‘go-to’ person. Take charge of your education.

What enrichment programs are offered at McAuliffe geared to GT?

Some of the GT enrichment programs are: Mathletics, Night of the Notables for 6th grade, 7th grade Independent Study project, 8th grade Object Study, Geography Bee, Semantics, NaNoWriMo and Destination Imagination. These may vary from year-to-year as interest changes.