



Welcome to York School District One's Parent Orientation for MERIT Students



Sparking potential.

What does MERIT stand for?

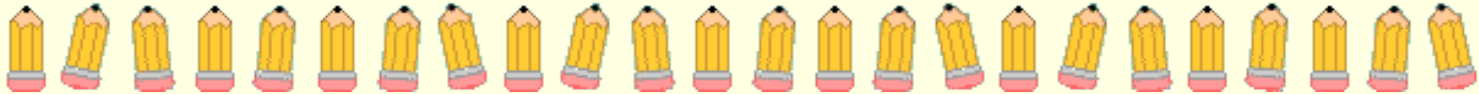
- **Meaningful**
- **Educational**
- **Resources for the**
- **Intellectually**
- **Talented**



CHARACTERISTICS OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

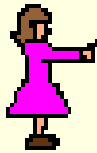
- Learns rapidly and easily**
- High level of verbal ability**
- May be lopsided intellectually**
- Above average reasoning ability**
- Great sense of humor**
- Very sensitive**
- Average to poor in arithmetic computations, spelling, or handwriting**
- Capable of deep concentration and persistence when interested**
- Varied interests and curiosity**
- Creative, playful, imaginative, or original**

Qualifications and Expectations



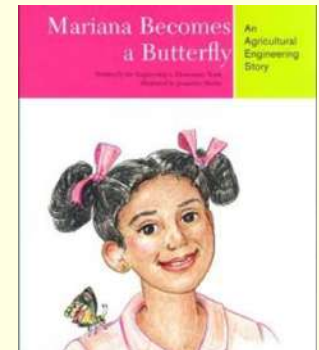
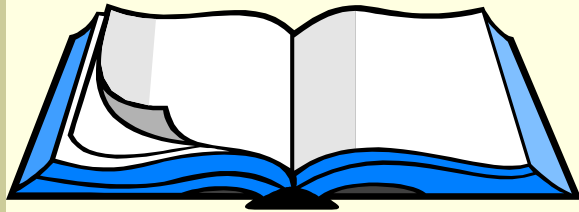
- ✓ **Students qualify by testing at the 94th percentile or higher on achievement tests and 93rd percentile or higher on ability tests. If you would like more information about your child's scores, please make an appointment with your child's MERIT teacher.**
- ✓ **Students are highly encouraged to keep their scores at these levels when taking other state tests and MAP. If you have questions about this, please see your child's MERIT teacher.**

MERIT Schedule

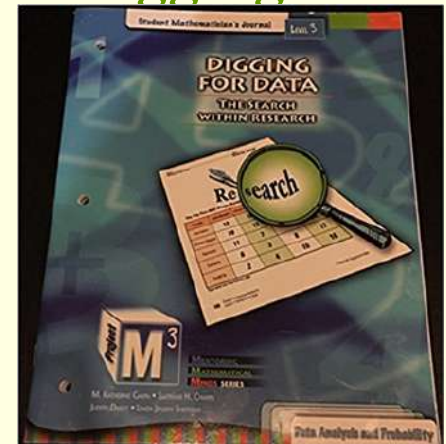


- **The MERIT pull out classes will begin the week of August 28 – September 1.**
- **Children receive instruction once a week in the MERIT pull out setting.**
- **4th grade students will be served a full day, and 3rd grade students will be served a half day.**
- **Dr. Dial – HGSES every day**
- **Ms. Merrell – JES Monday, Tuesday
CBES Wednesday, Thursday, Friday**
- **Ms. Parker – HCJ Monday, Tuesday
HSES Wednesday, Thursday, Friday**

Elementary Units of Study

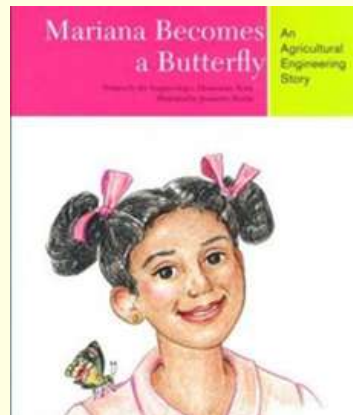


- **Science: STEM Unit: The Best of Bugs: Designing Hand Pollinators**
- **Math Unit: Mentoring Mathematical Minds – Digging for Data: The Search within Research**
- **Research: Independent Study**



Grades 5 and 6 Units of Study at HGES

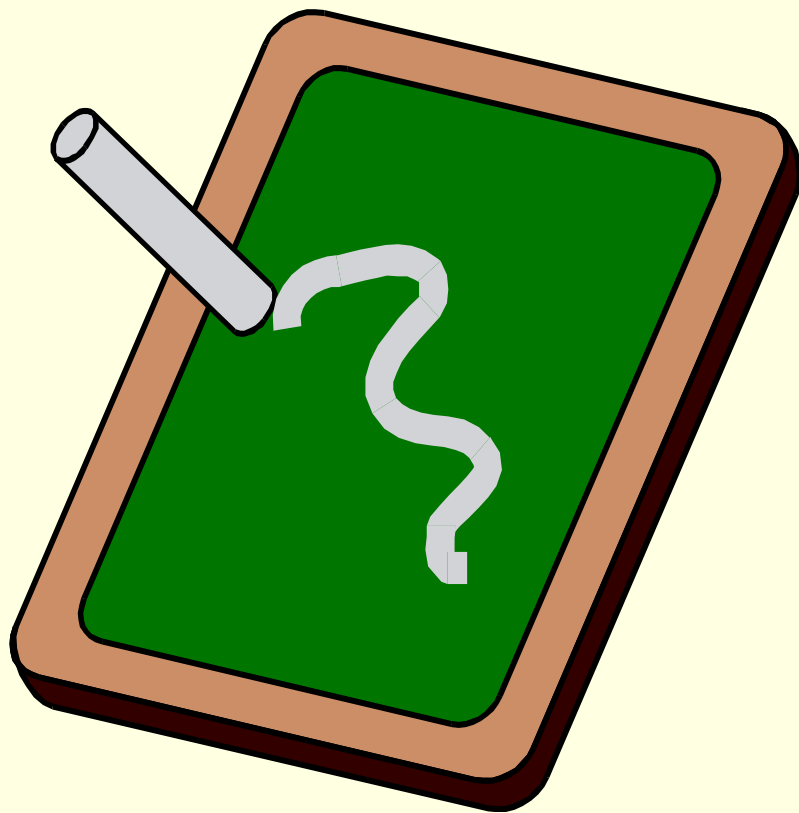
- **Science: The Best of Bugs: Designing Hand Pollinators**
- **Math Unit: Borenson Hands-On Equations (Algebraic thinking)**
- **Research: Independent Study**



What does a typical half day in 3rd grade MERIT look like?

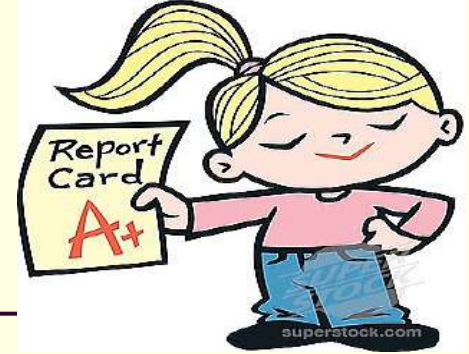
- ❖ The first hour is dedicated to critical and creative thinking. This includes activities such as logic puzzles, patterns, deducibles, wuzzles, MENSA, analogies, etc.
- ❖ The second hour is dedicated to unit work such as the science unit, math unit, and independent study.
- ❖ Class is usually ended by journal writing, exit slips, etc.
- ❖ 4th – 6th grade is similar except that students will go to activity and lunch during the MERIT day.

How will I know what my child is doing in MERIT?



- **Student Work**
- **Evaluations**
- **Calendars**
- **Parent Conferences**
- **Report Cards**
- **Phone Calls**
- **E-mails**

Grading System



MERIT work does not reflect the standard grading system of A through F. We are following the district's standards based grading system.

ⓔ – Exceeds

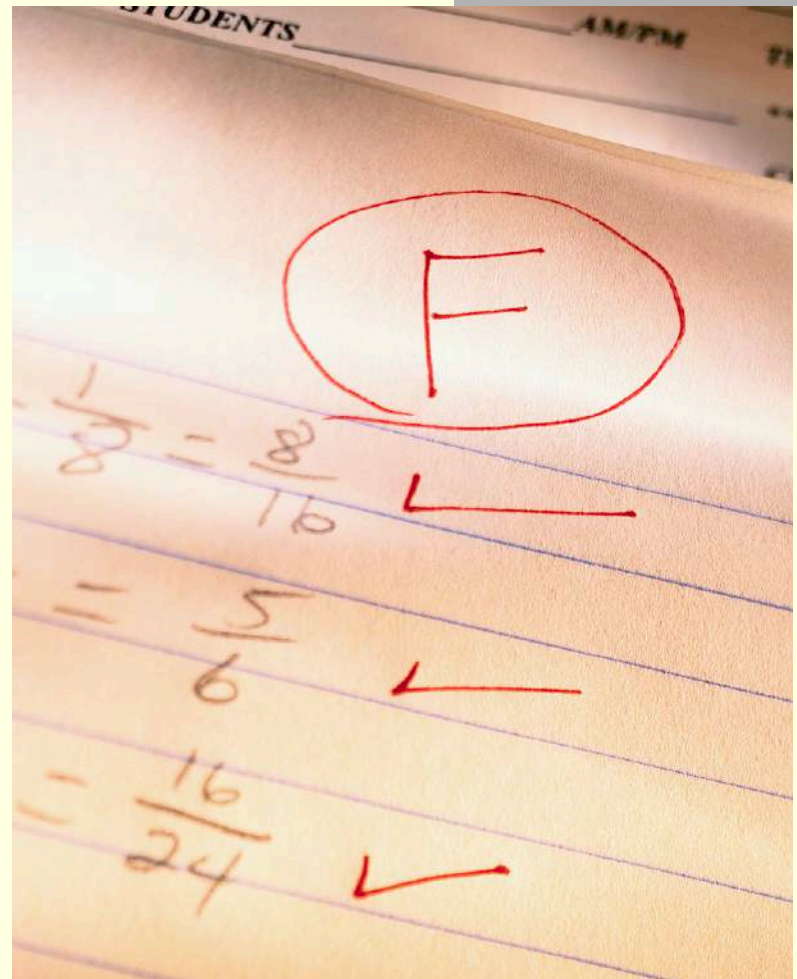
Ⓟ – Proficient

Ⓝ – Not Yet

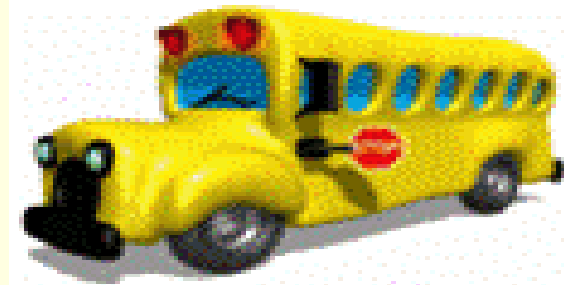
Ⓤ – Unsatisfactory

PROBATION

- What is it?
- When are students placed on probation?



Field Trips



DSBG

Daniel Stowe

Botanical Garden

Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden Gastonia, NC



- ❖ All Elementary 3rd and 4th grade MERIT students and HGSES 5th and 6th grade MERIT students.
- ❖ November 14th or 16th
(Date TBA for your child's school later)
- ❖ Cost to be determined



Camp Thunderbird



4th Grade

**Dates: Thursday, March 8, 2018
and Friday, March 9, 2018**

Cost: Cost to be determined



YIS 5th & 6th Grade MERIT

Teachers at York Intermediate School Serving MERIT Students:

Team 6-1: Lancaster, Kirklin, Smithson, Nyegaard

Team 6-2: Gockel, Wiggins, Hughes, Boggs

Team 6-3: Sexton, Johnson, Whitesides, Mitchell

Team 5-2: Mendy Mitchell, D.Farris

Team 5-4: Bennett, Vaughn

YIS 5th Grade Structure

- **All Merit students in 5th grade at York Intermediate are placed in a classroom together. There are usually 3 Merit classes at YIS.**
- **Students receive instruction by a Gifted and Talented Endorsed teacher in Language Arts/Social Studies and Math/Science.**
- **Children receive differentiated instruction daily that includes**
 - **strategies to allow for student interaction and discussion**
 - **the use of technology to enhance critical thinking**
 - **increased rigor in the classroom that is effective for gifted learners.**

YIS 6th Grade Structure

§ Accelerated pace, rigorous resources and higher learning expectations

§ Modified activities to meet needs and abilities of students

§ End of the Year Social Studies Research Project



Quiz
Team!

Questions

- ⑩ If you have any questions throughout the school year, please contact your child's MERIT teacher at school in order to set up a time to meet.



Elementary

Contact Information

Please call or email the teachers with questions or concerns.

Ms. Diane Merrell

JES 803-684-1942

CBES 803-684-1947

dmerrell@york.k12.sc.us

Dr. Martha Dial (HGSES)

803-925-2116

mdial@york.k12.sc.us

Ms. Leesa Parker

HCJES 803-818-6040

HSES 803-684-1926

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York Intermediate School

Contact Information

803.684.2311

Team 6-1

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Team 6-2

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Team 5-2

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District Office Contact Information

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Sparking potential. Inspiring success.