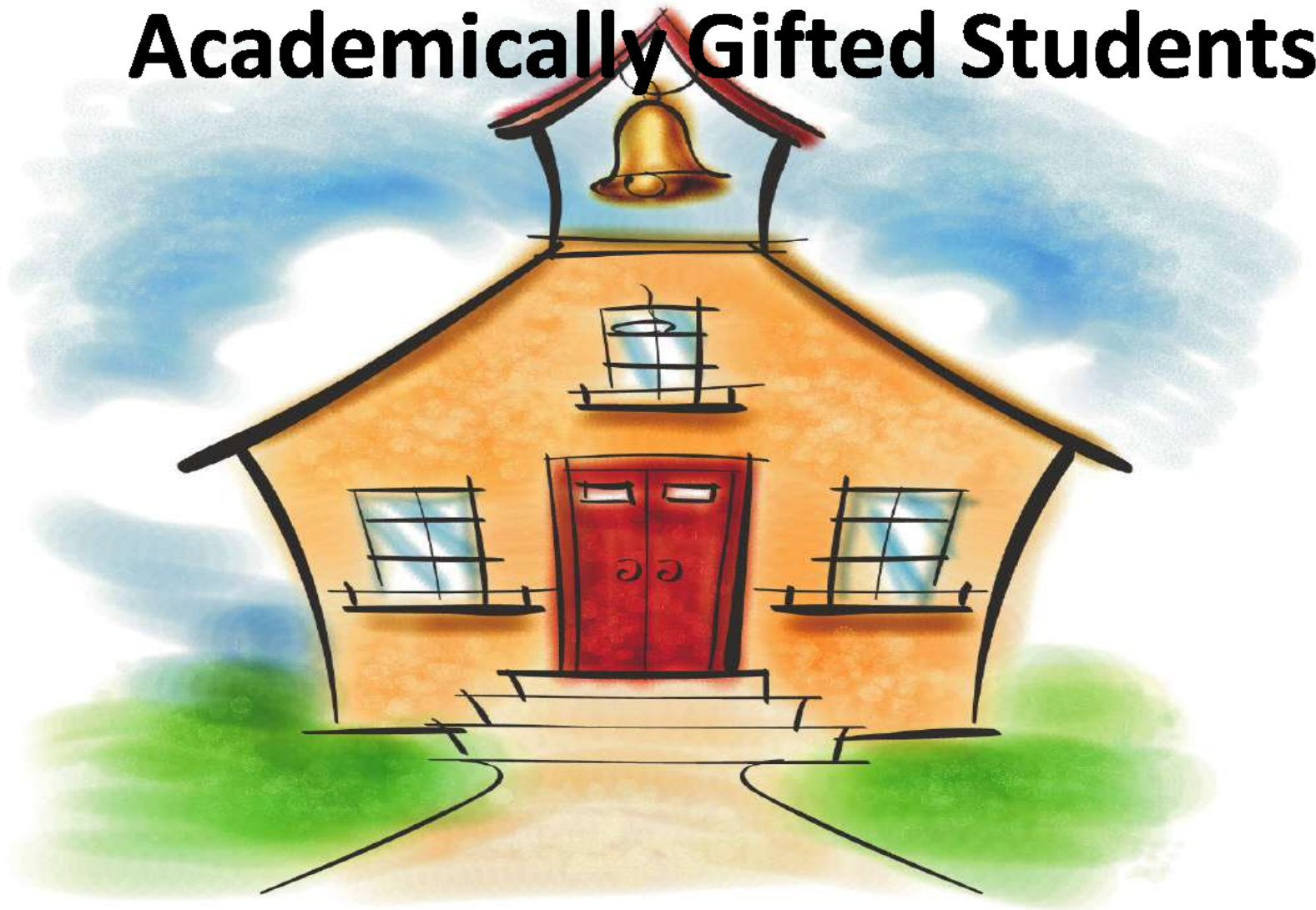


Back to School Night Annual Meeting for Parents of Academically Gifted Students



How do we serve your AIG child at Piedmont?

- Through a Differentiated Education Plan



What is differentiation?

- A **differentiated learning experience** occurs when educators **modify** the regular curriculum setting and select instructional practices that reflect students' readiness for learning. This "readiness" includes **ability levels, achievement levels, interests, and learning styles/preferences.**

How is middle school TD different from elementary school TD?

- Piedmont uses **cluster groups** to serve our TD students in the classrooms. We do not use a “pull out” model; instead students are served in their classrooms through **differentiated instruction**. Students are provided learning experiences and assessments that are conceptually advanced, challenging and complex. Lessons involve **critical thinking**, **creative problems solving** and **inquiry based assessment**. Teachers will use pre and post assessments to determine students’ strengths and weaknesses as well as ensure that students have mastered concepts taught.
- **Our Goal: to provide appropriately challenging, stimulating experiences throughout the school day.**

How will Piedmont Middle School communicate with the parents of our TD students?

- Each quarter we publish a newsletter to parents of TD students. The newsletter can be found on Piedmont's web page under Talent Development. At the end of the year a Performance Review will be sent home with every TD student along with their CMS report card.



What Special Programs does Piedmont offer?

- Robotics, Theater, Chess Club, Science Olympiad, Odyssey of the Mind, Advisory, Math Counts, Lego-League, and Community and Service.
- If your child scored a 95th percentile or higher on the 4th, 5th or 6th grade EOG he/she is eligible to apply for the Duke TIP program. Go to www.tip.duke.edu for information on the program or your child may pick up an application packet from Student Services. **Please contact the Duke TIP program directly with any questions regarding the program (919-668-9100)**

What is the Middle Years Program IB and how is this different from other CMS Middle Schools?

- The MYP model places the **learner at its center**. IB believes in educating the **whole child**, with a strong emphasis on **inquiry**. MYP students are making the transition from early puberty to mid-adolescence, which is a crucial period of **personal, social and intellectual development**, of uncertainty and questioning. The MYP is designed to guide students in their search for a sense of place in their natural and social environments.
- Students at Piedmont will not only cover the North Carolina Standard Course of Study, they will also cover the **MYP aims and objectives** as well. In addition to assessments covering the Common Core standards, IB students will be assessed on the **IB criteria** for **each subject area**. IB grades will be reported on the **PowerSchool Parent Portal** as an exempt grade and students will also receive an IB report card **twice** a year.

Is Piedmont an authorized MYP school?

- Piedmont is a fully authorized MYPIB school. Piedmont was authorized in 2008.
- Our next evaluation visit will occur in 2017.



Questions?

Dawn Johnston

Academic Facilitator

[dawn.johnston@cms.k12.nc.u](mailto:dawn.johnston@cms.k12.nc.us)

[s](#)

980 343-5435 ext. 4913

Karen Gorman

IB Coordinator

Karenj.Gorman@cms.k12.nc.us

980 343-5435 ext. 4913