

Meeting the Needs of the High Achieving Students

Neptune Township School District
September 2020

Updated February 9 , 2021

Strengthening Gifted and Talented Education Act

On January 13, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy signed into law A4710, the Strengthening Gifted and Talented Education Act.

Pursuant to 18A:7A-11, each school district shall file with the NJDOE Gifted Education Coordinator a report that must contain:

- The gifted and talented continuum of services, policies, and procedures implemented in the school district; and
- The professional development opportunities provided for teachers, educational services staff, and school leaders about gifted and talented students, their needs, and educational development.

District Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Neptune Township School District is to prepare all students for life in the twenty-first century by encouraging them to recognize that learning is a continuing process. It is with high expectations that our schools foster:

- ❑ A strong foundation in academic areas and modern technologies.
- ❑ A positive and varied approach to teaching and learning.
- ❑ An emphasis on critical thinking skills and problem-solving techniques.
- ❑ A respect for and an appreciation of our world, its resources, and its people.
- ❑ A sense of responsibility, good citizenship, and accountability.
- ❑ An involvement by the parents and the community in the learning process.

Procedures for Ongoing Identification K-12

- Use of multiple measures
- Use of developmentally appropriate assessment
- Ongoing formative and summative assessment of students
- Differentiated Instruction
- Small-group
- One-on-one conferencing
- Personalized learning

Instructional Adaptations

- Appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used indicating content, process, products, and learning environments
- Additional education activities such as academic competitions, guest speakers, and lessons with a specialist

ELEMENTARY

Identification and Selection - LAUNCH Program

Multiple measures are used to identify potential candidates for LAUNCH. Several interdependent criteria include but are not limited to the selection criteria:

- ❑ Academic Performance as measured by Standardized Assessments:
 - ❑ Reading “Above Grade Level” as measured by DRA² and/or STAR
 - ❑ CoGAT - Cognitive Abilities Test (for 3rd graders)
 - ❑ NJSLA Data (for 4th and 5th graders)
- ❑ Standards Based Report Cards
- ❑ Benchmark Assessments
- ❑ Work Samples
- ❑ Teacher recommendation
- ❑ Record of good class citizenship and behaviors that support learning
- ❑ Interview process, if needed

Availability of spaces in a particular class may limit enrollment and placement of qualified students. In cases of the latter, students will be placed on a waiting list.

Current LAUNCH students are re-evaluated on a yearly basis and must qualify from year to year to remain in the program. Final determination of continuation for the next grade level will occur in June.

LAUNCH Parent Information Brochure 2020

Additional Enrichment Opportunities Available

- ❖ Enrichment Classes offered during weekly 1 hour PLCs
 - STEM
 - Art
 - Music
 - Library
 - Physical Education
- ❖ Advanced Band
- ❖ Advanced Chorus
- ❖ SummerWood Environmental Science Program

MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADES 6 - 8

Programs Offered - Middle School

- English Classes - Honors
- Mathematics - Honors/Accelerated/Algebra
- Science - Honors and Environmental Science
- Social Studies - Honors
- Visual Arts and Design Thinking
 - Studio Visual Arts
 - 2-Dimensional Arts
 - 3-Dimensional Arts
 - Videography I and Videography II
 - Robotics
 - Advanced Multimedia Programming

Selection Criteria - Middle School

Multiple measures are used to identify potential candidates for Honors classes. Several interdependent criteria include but are not limited to the selection criteria:

- ❖ Academic Performance as measured by:
 - STAR Reading assessment (IRL)
 - Writing Sample
 - WIDA Access 2.0 Score (for English Language Learners)
 - District Benchmark Assessments
 - Grades from prior school year
- ❖ Teacher Recommendation

Arts and Education Center Program for Gifted and Talented Students

- Students who pass an audition process have the opportunity to participate in a time-release program for the Arts.
- Courses are taught, through the Arts and Education Center, at an advanced level and provide a rigorous curriculum for developing artistic skills and creative expression in the art form of the student's choice.
- NJ State Teen Arts Festival
- Additional information can be found at <https://artsandedcenter.org/>

Additional Opportunities Available - Middle School

- ❖ Art Club
- ❖ Band Concert
- ❖ Bowling Club
- ❖ Character Club
- ❖ Chess and Game Club
- ❖ Debate Club
- ❖ Drama Club
- ❖ Engineering Club
- ❖ National Junior Honor Society
- ❖ Student Council
- ❖ Yearbook
- ❖ Washington DC Trip - 8th Graders

HIGH SCHOOL
GRADES 9 - 12

Selection of Programs - High School

❖ Advanced Placement Courses

- Academic Performance/Assessment Data
- Student Interest
- Teacher Recommendation
- AP Potential Report (based on PSAT scores)

❖ Honors Courses

- Academic Performance/Assessment Data
- Student Interest
- Teacher Recommendation

❖ JumpStart

- Application; Student Interest

❖ Poseidon

- Application Process; Interview

❖ Dual Enrollment

- Academic Achievement and Standardized Test Scores (as determined by Brookdale)

Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

- ❖ All AP courses are full year 10 credit classes
- ❖ Follow College Board approved syllabus
- ❖ Credits for these courses are awarded at the end of the school year
- ❖ College Board exam administered in the Spring providing an opportunity to earn potential college credit (no cost to students)
- ❖ Student Option to Withdraw
 - 20 consecutive calendar days from the first day of class to withdraw without penalty
 - Students who opt to withdraw from day 21 through the end of the first semester will receive a code of "W" (Withdraw) which will be reflected on the school report card and student transcript
 - AP students who complete the first semester and begin the second semester of the course will not have the option to withdraw.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses Offered

☐ English

- ☐ AP English Language Composition
- ☐ AP Literature and Composition

☐ History and Social Science

- ☐ AP United States History
- ☐ AP United States Government and Politics

☐ Math and Computer Science

- ☐ AP Calculus
- ☐ AP Computer Science A

☐ Sciences

- ☐ AP Biology
- ☐ AP Chemistry
- ☐ AP Physics

☐ World Languages

- ☐ Advanced Placement Spanish Language

Honors Courses Offered - High School

- ❖ Honors Advanced Visual Arts- Portfolio Review
- ❖ Honors Music Theory- Ability to read & notate one clef of music
- ❖ Honors Chamber Singers- Audition
- ❖ Honors Wind Ensemble- Audition
- ❖ Honors English
- ❖ World Languages (Spanish and French) - placement based on speaking, listening and writing assessment with the option to skip the Level 1 course
- ❖ Honors Calculus
- ❖ Sciences - Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Auditory Impaired Program:

The Neptune Regional Deaf education program is a total communication program designed for both self-contained and mainstreamed Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. The students' individual learning styles and ability levels are assessed and class placement addresses their specific learning needs.

*Students who are deemed to be at the appropriate education level are able to participate in mainstreamed College Prep, **Honors, and AP level classes.***

Students are provided with the following support services: In-Class Support with a Teacher of the Deaf, Education Interpreters, note takers, Speech and Language Therapy, and a Study Skills class with a Teacher of the Deaf.

JumpStart Academies

The NHS JumpStart Academies provide students an opportunity to earn "real world" experiences in a career path of their choice.

JumpStart Academies offered include: Hospitality and Tourism, Communications, Performing and Visual Arts, Law and Criminal Justice, Education, Engineering, Environment Science, and Medical Science. Students will participate in an Experiential Learning for each respective academy. In order to participate in a specific Experiential Learning Experience, students will need to have taken or take concurrently, a specified school-time course.

Dual Enrollment Program

This program allows qualified high school seniors to be released from their high school for a portion of the day once a week to take college level courses at Brookdale. Neptune High School will be responsible for payment of tuition, general services fees and course fees for these students in the program. Students participating in this program may be responsible for other/additional costs associated with attending, including their books, fees, course materials and transportation. Students must still attend class even when their high school is closed for the day.

Poseidon Early College High School

The Poseidon Early College Program is a joint effort between the Neptune Township School District and Brookdale Community College to give first generation college students the opportunity to work towards and obtain their associate degree while also completing their Neptune High School Diploma.

The staff at Poseidon are committed to providing quality instruction and maintaining high expectations for all students, and the small class size provides a strong focus on personalization of instruction. Our strong academic culture will prepare our graduates to be competitively eligible for admission to all institutions of higher learning. Both challenging and rewarding, The Poseidon Program is helping change lives and create a better future for our students.

Additional information can be found at this link: [Poseidon Early College High School](#)

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EXIT PROCEDURES

Exit Procedures

- ❑ Each student identified as gifted and talented will be assessed annually for the continuation of the enriched program.
- ❑ The program will be revised as required to meet the student's needs and interests.
- ❑ The student may be withdrawn from the program when:
 - ❑ Academic record indicates a decline in performance
 - ❑ Student wishes to withdraw and parent/guardian consent
 - ❑ Parent/guardian requests withdrawal
- ❑ A decision to withdraw a pupil from the program will be made by the classroom teacher, Principal, Supervisor, School Counselor, parent/legal guardian, and when appropriate, student.

Professional Development

Professional Development Plan

- ❑ The district will provide the time and resources to develop, review and enhance instructional tools with the modifications for helping gifted and talented students acquire and demonstrate mastery of the required knowledge and skills specified by the student's instructional level.
- ❑ Professional development will be provided for teachers, educational services staff, and school leaders in the area of gifted and talented education.

NTSD Policy 2464 GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

NTSD Policy 9130 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS & GRIEVANCES

For Additional Information contact:

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- ☐ Your School Counselor or Building Principal
- ☐ Mr. Kolinofsky, Supervisor - 732.776.2200 ext. 7802
- ☐ Mr. Beltran, Director of School Counseling - 732.776.2200 ext. 7005
- ☐ Dr. Millaway, Director for Curriculum & Assessment - 732.776.2200 ext. 7802