

REACH GIFTED SERVICES

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REACH Middle School Humanities Program

What is REACH Humanities?

Gifted 6th – 8th grade gifted students are enrolled in a Humanities course that serves as their Social Studies class.

Why do we use a humanities model?

- > Humanities class allows students to learn with their intellectual peers.
- Students receive embedded social emotional lessons with students who have similar gifted characteristics and needs.
- Humanities provides complex project and problem based instruction that utilizes differentiated processes and products and appropriate learning environment for students in all identified areas of giftedness.

How will the curriculum be differentiated for the REACH students?

- Compacting/Extension projects
- Tiered lessons
- Screater breadth and depth of subject matter (still addressing the Arizona State Standards)

What are some other benefits of this program?

- > All students in the classroom receive instruction at the appropriate level of challenge.
- Students are able to work with various groupings, dependent on their needs and the learning objectives.
- Students learn to become more self-directed.
- Students interact with their REACH teacher every day.

Amphitheater Middle School • Coronado K-8 School • Cross Middle School • La Cima Middle School • Wilson K-8 School Copper Creek Elementary • Donaldson Elementary • Harelson Elementary • Holaway Elementary • Innovation Academy • Keeling Elementary Mesa Verde Elementary • Nash Elementary • Painted Sky Elementary • Prince Elementary • Rio Vista Elementary • Walker Elementary • Rillito Center

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REACH High School Program

What is REACH like at the high school level?

Gifted students at the three high schools are able access advanced courses through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate (CDO only), and Carnegie (AHS only).

Gifted services at this level complement the core curriculum through college and career planning, self-understanding and personal development.

- Gifted high school students are provided seminar-style lessons through the Pre-AP English classrooms in the 9th and 10th grades.
- > Juniors and seniors may elect to enroll in our district's **Honors Seminar** course.

Honors Seminar is a yearlong weighted course that gives bright and high-achieving juniors and seniors the opportunity to "launch and learn" while still in high school. It is a chance for students to explore their gifts and aspirations with authentic, real world experiences in their areas of interest. With the guidance of a mentor, students must secure and fulfill <u>180 hours of fieldwork in any of the following enrichment options:</u>

Mentorship: Work alongside and learn from a mentor in a professional or occupational environment

Entrepreneurship: Start, develop, and manage a business venture

<u>Apprenticeship</u>: Work with an expert to study, gain essential skills, qualifications, and/or certification toward a profession in a specialized field or craft

<u>Community Initiative</u>: Plan and carry out a long-term project of benefit to the community

Seniors who have completed Honors seminar as juniors may elect to enroll in our district's Honors Capstone Award course.

Honors Capstone is a year-long weighted course that gives gifted and high-achieving seniors the chance to extend the experiential learning done in Honors Seminar. In addition to fulfilling 180 fieldwork hours in enrichment options that include *Mentorship, Entrepreneurship, Apprenticeship, or Community Initiative,* students must also complete a Capstone Project. Capstone students plan, implement, and lead a capstone project of their design.

In both courses, students attend weekly college-style seminar classes in which they:

- Complete research projects to explore their interests, talents, and aptitudes
- Plan and prepare for post-secondary talent development pathways
- Pursue and apply for post-secondary school acceptance and scholarships (seniors only)
- Develop and continually refine resumes
- Cultivate and polish interpersonal and interviewing skills
- Read independently and participate in group discussions about topics relevant to the class.