

LCPS Gifted Education Program Update

The LCPS Gifted Education Department will begin the phase in of a new program model for FUTURA gifted services during the 2018-2019 school year. The new school-based, collaborative gifted program will provide gifted services in 4th grade classrooms in seven schools. Classroom teachers, with the assistance of a gifted resource teacher, will plan and implement accelerated and enriched learning opportunities designed to meet the needs of gifted learners. The goal of the program is to provide a gifted education program that will challenge gifted learners and enable them to make continuous progress in school. The main components of the program will include the following:

- providing instructional time for gifted learners to interact with their academic and age-level peers, as well as providing time for them to work independently
- challenging students with curricula developed for gifted learners
- offering professional development for teachers in best practices in gifted education
- partnering classroom teachers with gifted resource teachers to collaboratively deliver an appropriately differentiated curriculum

The elementary schools that will implement the new model for 4th grade students identified for gifted services are:

Kenneth W. Culbert Elementary School
John W. Tolbert Jr. Elementary School
Ashburn Elementary School
Sanders Corner Elementary School
Steuart W. Weller Elementary School
Forest Grove Elementary School
Goshen Post Elementary School

FUTURA centers will continue to operate for all other gifted learners as well as for 5th grade gifted learners attending the schools listed above. Parent/guardian and student feedback will be gathered throughout the school year to provide valuable input and inform program modifications.

Parents and family members of students at these schools will be invited to attend information sessions this month to learn more about this initiative. For other parents and families interested in the program, more information will be shared at gifted information sessions in September.

For updates on the program, please continue to visit the LCPS Gifted and Talented webpage at www.lcps/Page/617.