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| School | **Olander School for Project Based Learning** |
| School’s Gifted & Talented Website | <https://ola.psdschools.org/gifted-and-talented> |
| # of students in GT Program  | ~30 GT Students ~70 Talent Pool Students |
| Overview of Gifted Program | The Summit (GT) program at Olander focuses on developing the gifts of our students within their strength areas. Olander’s Project-Based Learning (PBL) model provides these opportunities to all students and is especially well‐suited to the talents of gifted students because of the focus on research, synthesis, communication, and real‐world skills.  PBL offers gifted students the opportunity to take projects as far as their interests and skills will allow.  For more interest on project based learning, see <https://ola.psdschools.org/project-based-learning-pbl>Our Summit structure allows us to offer a variety of programming for those students identified as gifted by the district as well as those high achieving students identified in our talent pool.  This structure has been proven to be quite successful at Olander over the past few years.  Summit students receive services by a certified teacher.   Enrichment is provided in math, language arts, or creativity, depending on the student’s area of identification.   Students in 4th grade have the opportunity to participate in a two year cohort that will allow them to accelerate in math. |
| Gifted & Talented Site Coordinator | David Arnoff |
| Structure (Grouping of Gifted Learners) | Frequently students are intentionally grouped with intellectual peers in the regular classroom in the students’ areas of strength. Third grade math students have the opportunity to learn with other gifted students in Math Summit, our pull-out enrichment program. 4th and 5th Grade Math Summit (a two year cohort) is a replacement compacted curriculum class which lays the foundation for acceleration in middle school. Our Language Arts Summit for our third through fifth grade students is embedded in the homerooms during our daily Intervention/Enrichment (IE) block. |
| Enrichment Opportunities for gifted learners during school | In addition to our Language Arts and Math Summit, there is individualized project extensions within the classroom during PBL time. The GT Coordinator will serve as a consultant to creativity students and/or their homeroom teacher to meld the open-ended standards driven projects their teacher assigns with the student’s personalized area of interest to create authentic, hands-on, in-depth learning opportunities. Within their homerooms, students identified in Language Arts regularly participate in higher level discussions centered on their literature studies and develop open ended projects.  |
| Enrichment Opportunities for gifted learners after school | Lego-Robotics, Hive, Math Olympiad, Mighty Math Minds tournament, TriMathlon, Kids Care Club (service), Osprey Choir, Running Club. Percussion Ensemble (4th and 5th Grade), Art Club, Collaboration Council, PSD Chess Tournaments, Mad-Science, Climbing Club, School Garden, Osprey Rock Ensemble, Mighty Math Minds |
| Affective programming | By flexibly adjusting our school-wide social skills curriculum, teachers address the unique challenges and social-emotional needs of gifted learners in the classroom. The collaborative nature of PBL encourages the social-emotional development of all students including our gifted learners. In addition, gifted students will be exposed to specific instruction and support centered on the affective needs of gifted learners. This instruction will occur with the counselor and GT coordinator about two sessions per trimester. Affective topics might include what it means to be gifted, perfectionism, peer relationships, organizational skills, effort, motivation, and appropriate social and intellectual risk taking. As needed, the counselor will host small “lunch bunch” discussion groups to discuss common social and emotional issues. |
| Content Extensions | Teachers of gifted Language Arts students group students with intellectual peers to tailor and extend learning in literacy. For Math, students have the opportunity to accelerate in 4th grade (The cohort will continue in 5th grade.). In earlier grades students are provided math enrichment with a certified teacher during our IE block. Teachers provide opportunities for students to apply math learning to real-life opportunities and go deeper in developing their mathematical thinking. |
| Differentiation for gifted in the regular classroom | All teachers in the school implement choice in process and product for many of the lessons. Tiered lessons are also common. Teachers often group gifted learners together in the classroom for parts of learning activities. |
| Acceleration Opportunities | 4th grade gifted math students have an opportunity to participate in a two year cohort to accelerate in math. They will have their standard grade level curriculum compacted and will also engage in learning the next grade level’s standards. (In 4th grade, students will learn 4th grade standards and half of 5th grade. When the cohort continues in 5th grade, they’ll learn the second half of 5th grade standards along with 6th grade standards.) Demonstrating success with the 6th grade standards will set students up to take 7th grade math when they enter middle school. Grade level and specific content acceleration is also done on a case‐by‐case‐basis. |