

"...the goal of gifted and talented education, Pre-K to 12, [should] be the development of gifted young adults, that is, students who by high school graduation possess the task commitment and creative spirit to complement their high levels of cognitive ability, individuals who have the emotional and vocational maturity and the patience to acquire the necessary expertise to make significant contributions in their chosen careers."

Ernesto Bernal

"Gifted Child Quarterly," Summer, 2003

About Gifted Education

Under the direction of the **Office of Elementary Academic Affairs**, this office is responsible for identifying and working to meet the needs of our gifted students by developing, delivering and encouraging ability-appropriate academic challenges as well as social/emotional support for the student.



**A Great Place to Learn
A Great Place to Live**

Vision

Our vision is to be the benchmark of educational excellence.

Mission

Our mission is to prepare students to contribute to the competitive and changing world in which we live.

Values

Driven by a vision to be the benchmark of educational excellence, the Westerville School District strives daily to exemplify the following organizational values:

Respect, Inclusiveness, Community,
Communication, Collaboration, Innovation,
Nurturing, Trust, Accountability

Board of Education

Gerrie Cotter, President
Tracy Davidson, Vice President
Dr. Nancy Nestor-Baker
Richard W. Bird
Rick Vilardo

Dr. John R. Kellogg, Ed.D.
Superintendent/CEO

Westerville City Schools
936 Eastwind Drive
Westerville, OH 43081
www.wcsOH.org



Middle School Services

A continuum of support for gifted students.

Gifted Education Program
936 Eastwind Drive
Westerville, OH 43081

(614) 797-5887

Caley Nestor Baker
District Gifted Education Coordinator

Department Objectives

To provide differentiated activities which address student interest and choice in the content areas of mathematics, science, language arts and social studies.

To support classroom instruction which addresses the identified strengths of gifted students.

To enhance and personalize learning opportunities so individual students can maximize their talents.

National Gifted Standards

- Creative problem solving
- Critical thinking
- Divergent thinking
- Interpersonal relations
- Logical reasoning
- Oral expression
- Research methods
- Written expression

Service Delivery

Each Middle School in the Westerville City School District provides the services of one part-time Middle School Gifted Coordinator for the students who have been identified as gifted by the procedures and criteria established by the Ohio Revised Code. The services consist of opportunities and activities in grades 6, 7, and 8.

The Middle School Gifted Coordinator provides consultation and professional development to staff to meet the affective and instructional needs of gifted students.

The Middle School Gifted Coordinator provides enrichment opportunities such as:

- Special seminars
- Career explorations
- Independent studies
- Advanced coursework
- Mentorships
- Academic competitions
- Information about extra-curricular opportunities

Gifted Office Staff

Office of Elementary Academic Affairs

936 Eastwind Drive
Westerville, Ohio 43081
614-797-5887

Caley Nestor Baker, District Gifted Education Coordinator
BakerC2@wcssoh.org

Middle School Gifted Coordinators

Dr. Lisa Huelskamp
Ms. Debbie Pellington

Gifted Resources

OAGC

Ohio Association for Gifted Children

Ann Sheldon, *Executive Director*
ExecutiveDirector@oagc.com
www.oagc.com

NAGC

National Association for Gifted Children

www.nagc.org

Ohio Department of Education- Office for Exceptional Children

Gifted Educational Consultants

(614) 466-2650

www.ode.state.oh.us

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