



ROCKBURN'S SCHOOL-WIDE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW



This document and additional information about the GT program at Rockburn can be found at:

<http://res.hcpss.org/about/grades-programs/gifted-talented>

Welcome back to a new school year. This overview will introduce you to the Gifted and Talented Program. It contains information about Curriculum-Based Enrichment Units and Instructional Seminars in grades two through five.

CURRICULUM-BASED ENRICHMENT UNITS

Enrichment Units are implemented throughout the year in second through fifth grade. Students meet with the GT teacher for 45-minute periods each time. There are one to two classes per week. These units are tied directly to the curriculum from some of the following disciplines: language arts, social studies, science, health, math, and technology.

Students are identified for participation at the beginning of each unit by a committee including the classroom teacher, other team members, and the enrichment team. A selection grid which was developed from countywide criteria for each unit is used to help in this process. For example, the criteria for the second grade World Cultures unit includes the student's reading level, writing level, social studies performance, task commitment, and a talent spotting lesson. Please see attachments for an overview of this year's curriculum-based enrichment units.

Some math enrichment is ongoing throughout the year with the above grade level math students in grade three. GT math is for students who have been identified for participation in grades four and five and meet daily.

An Open Letter to the Community at Large:

Last year was a tremendous success for the enrichment program at RES. Curriculum-Based Enrichment Units enabled a wide range of students to participate in a variety of programs from Immigration to the River Watch.

The success of the Howard County Gifted and Talented Program is based upon its philosophy to provide a variety of enrichment experiences for students. This program enhances the learning process throughout the building and provides an outlet to celebrate the academic successes of students.

Many of the questions you might have about Rockburn's Gifted and Talented Program are answered in this introductory newsletter and will be reviewed at our Parent Orientation on Tuesday, September 25th at 5:00 pm in the media center before the second and fourth grade "Back to School" nights. Parents with children from any grade level are invited to attend.

If you have any additional questions about the program, please email either of us at:

samuel_polack@hcpss.org
haether_weeks@hcpss.org

For more information, you may also visit the Howard County GT Website at:

<http://www.hcpss.org/academics/gifted-and-talented/>

We would like to thank the Rockburn community for continuous support of the G/T Program and are looking forward to working with you and your children this year.

Sincerely,

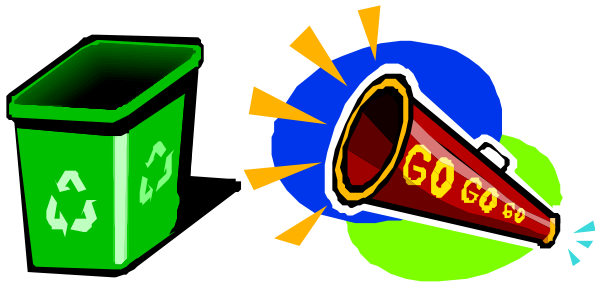
Sam Polack

Heather Weeks



INSTRUCTIONAL SEMINARS

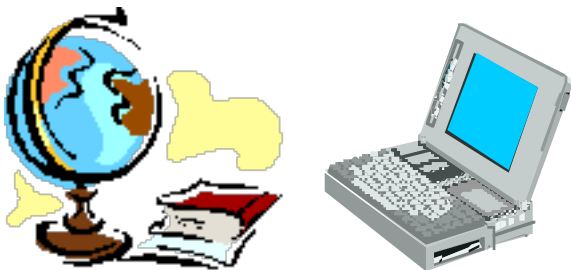
Instructional Seminars are opportunities for students to experience a new interest area. Each grade level has a variety of seminars available to them during recess. Some seminars will run year round while others are just for one semester. Any student is able to participate in either or both seminars. Please see the attachment for this year's Instructional Seminars.



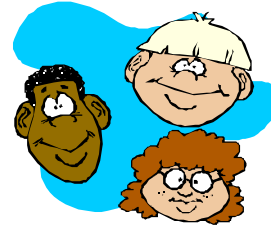
SCHOOLWIDE ENRICHMENT FAIR

The Enrichment Fair has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2019 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. This annual event provides a chance for all of the students who complete an Instructional Seminar, or participate in a Curriculum-Based Enrichment Unit this year, to share their efforts with the community.

Examples of student's work from all academic areas will be on display in the building. Please mark your calendars.



GT STUDENT ORIENTATION - ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES TWO THROUGH FIVE



Student orientations are held during the month of September. Students learn how to participate in Instructional Seminars. They also learn which Curriculum-based Enrichment Units are scheduled for their grade this year and the criteria teachers use to select participants.

Talk to your child to see if they have an interest in participating in an Instructional Seminar this year. They will sign-up with their classroom teacher for these opportunities. All students who sign-up will receive an application to complete at home. The completed application acts as your child's permission to participate in the seminar.

IS YOUR CHILD NEW TO HOWARD COUNTY SCHOOLS THIS YEAR?

The Gifted and Talented Math program in Howard County offers an enriched and accelerated math curriculum beginning in the fourth grade to qualified students. The program covers approximately four years of math during the fourth and fifth grades and is designed for those students who have always been at the very top of their class in math.

If you are **NEW** to Howard County this year and think your fourth or fifth grader belongs in this challenging, fast-paced, homework-intensive course, please notify Sam Polack, one of the G/T Resource Teachers, as soon as possible.