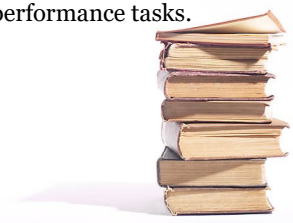
Vision

Our vision is to provide a safe, healthy, supportive environment focused on learning and committed to high academic achievement. Through the shared responsibility of our stakeholders, students will be prepared as lifelong learners and as participating, contributing, members of our dynamic and diverse community.

Mission

To identify students for the gifted program as outlined by the Georgia Department of Education (SBOE Rule 160-4-2-38), provide rigorous, challenging, and diverse curriculum , and provide opportunities to express extraordinary and unique abilities through performance tasks.



Paulding County
Board of Education
3236 Atlanta Highway
Dallas, GA 30132
770-443-8000

Paulding County Gifted Education

The Georgia State Board of Education defines a gifted student as, "A student who demonstrates a high degree of intellectual and/or creative ability(ies), exhibits an exceptionally high degree of motivation, and/or excels in specific academic fields, and who needs special instruction and/or ancillary services to achieve at levels commensurate with his/her abilities."

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Referral Process

Classroom teachers, parents/guardians, counselors, administrators, students, or any other responsible persons who have knowledge of the student's intellectual function may refer a student according to the Georgia Department of Education guidelines. Nomination guidelines and appropriate forms are available from the school's Gifted teacher.

Referral

Students are also referred automatically as a result of system-wide testing. Two referral windows, Fall and Spring are available. Referrals are reviewed by the school's local eligibility team. The team determines which students will be formally evaluated.

Eligibility

The eligibility team at the local school reviews the relevant information about the referred student. A decision is made by the team regarding eligibility or the need for further assessment.

Evaluation

Following parental consent, the local school evaluates the student's mental ability, achievement, creativity, and motivation through the use of nationally normed tests, instruments, performances, and standardized rating scales, as outlined by state guidelines.

Gifted Curriculum

Elementary students participate in a resource program for six segments each week taught by a certified gifted teacher. Students receive interdisciplinary enrichment in the areas of science, social studies, language arts, math, and reading. Units and skills are outlined on the district Curriculum menu and aligned with Georgia Standards of Excellence. Students' achievement is recorded at the end of every nine weeks and/or semester via the report card.

The ***middle school*** gifted student is served daily in an advanced subject course with a certified gifted teacher. At the middle school level, teachers focus on the Georgia Standards of Excellence while addressing the needs of gifted students for more elaborate, complex, and in-depth study of major ideas, problems, and themes. Class determination is made according to student strengths, eligibility testing results, academic performance, and teacher observation.

The ***high school*** gifted student has a variety of options for daily service. These options include Honors classes, Advanced Placement courses, and post -secondary options. All courses are aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence while extending and refining student learning. Honors and Advance Placement teachers are gifted certified in addition to holding certification in their appropriate content area.

Gifted, Honors and Advanced Placement Program

Paulding County School District provides services for identified gifted students at all grade levels. The gifted program is designed to meet the specific needs of these students and extend competencies in the areas of cognitive skills, collaboration, problem solving, creativity, reference skills, and communication skills beyond the experience of the regular classroom. The procedures for identifying and placing students in the gifted program are governed by the Georgia State Department of Education Rule 160-4-2-.38.

At all grade levels, the **goals** of the program are:

1. Gifted students will develop advanced research skills and methods.
2. Gifted students will develop and practice creative thinking and creative problem-solving skills with a variety of complex topics within the area of study.
3. Gifted students will develop and practice critical thinking and logical problem-solving skills in the pertinent academic area.
4. Gifted students will develop advanced communication skills.
5. Gifted students will develop an understanding of self and how their unique characteristics may influence interactions with others.