

A Quarterly Insight into Middle & High School GT Programs

FALL 2020 *Gifted Gab*

Special Programs >>>

Is Great Scholars Academy the right academic program for your child?

Great Scholars Academy is an advanced, academic program available in select middle and high schools. It is designed to parallel a level of rigor and individualized instruction offered in the gifted program. Students must meet high academic and behavior standards to maintain eligibility. To determine if this program is a fit for your child, ask yourself these questions:

Would your child benefit from classes with these characteristics?

- Reduced class size (max. 23)
- Setting with intellectual peers
- Advanced curriculum
- Accelerated course work
- Project-based learning
- Discussion-based instruction

Has your child scored **Mastery or Above** (84th percentile) in 2+ areas on a standardized assessment in the last 12 months?

Can your child maintain a **2.5 GPA** and conform to behavior standards set by the school and district?

If you answered "Yes" to these questions, then Great Scholars Academy might be the perfect fit for your child!

Download & Submit an application today!

<https://ebrschools.org/programs/gifted-and-talented/great-scholars-academy/>

What is Gifted & Talented?

For more information, visit www.ebrschools.org/GT

The Gifted Program is an academic program for identified gifted students in Pre-K to 12th grade. Classes provide a high degree of complexity and extend beyond the curriculum offered in regular classes. Classes feature a reduced class size that enables the teacher to individualize each student's educational program.

The Talented Arts Program is for students identified as talented in visual arts, music, and/or theatre in K to 12th grade. Instruction in these classes is designed to provide experiences that enable the talented student to further develop skills in their areas of talent and increase their discipline knowledge as each grows as an artist.

Characteristics of Gifted Students

- Learns rapidly/easily
- Reads extensively
- Has an advanced vocabulary
- Retains a large amount of information
- Exhibits a long attention span
- Is curious & has a variety of interests
- Works independently
- Is alert and observant
- Has a good sense of humor
- Sees & understands relationships
- Is a high academic achiever
- Displays individuality
- Has self-motivation & is self-sufficient
- Demonstrates task commitment

Characteristics of Talented Students

- Demonstrates task commitment
- Grasps new concepts quickly
- Shows exceptional and/or original, creative or divergent ideas
- Critiques own work or performance
- Participates in dialogue about strengths and weaknesses as an artist
- Shares ideas & skills with others
- Shows sensitivity & has an emotional response to art forms
- Pays particular attention to detail
- Participates eagerly in activities involving the discipline area
- Enjoys freedom for self-expression

DID YOU KNOW?

Gifted teachers have advanced degrees specific to a child's gifted exceptionality!

Students can be in Gifted AND Talented Programs! They can even be Talented in multiple areas!

Talented teachers are professional musicians, actors, and artists!

Middle School Programs >>>

Glasgow Middle School

Gifted Coordinator: Amy Rivet, ARivet@ebrschools.org
<https://www.glasgowmiddle.org/>

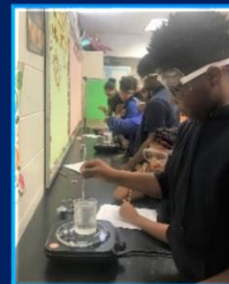
Glasgow Middle School's Roman Technology program continues to grow! The class mixes STEM and Roman history as students reproduce the products and processes of ancient Roman daily life with hands-on experimental archaeology labs. Curriculum designer and teacher Nathalie Roy was recently named 2021 Louisiana State Teacher of the Year. Since the program began two years ago, students have baked Roman bread in mini-ovens, arranged hair with long needles and yarn, written in squid ink on papyrus, designed and built aqueduct models, fired in hand-made brick kilns, oriented and constructed a 20-foot mosaic analematic sundial, built and fired their own catapult models, and the list goes on! There is so much to learn from Roman ingenuity. Even during the pandemic, Ms. Roy worked to make STEM accessible at home. Creating take-home kits with paper, rulers, scissors, and templates, this year's Roman technology students have created their own mosaics based on ones found in ancient Roman Britain. They learned to measure out a Solomon's knot design and recreated a piece of a larger mosaic to be installed in their classroom this year. In person, the students would cut stone tesserae with mosaic hammers and wedges, but the Romans were masters of adaptation, so our Roman Tech students have learned to adapt too. The students focused on accurately measuring and sketching out their knotted designs just as ancient Roman mosaic designers would have. Visit us on Facebook @glasgowmiddlebr to learn more.



Westdale Middle School

Gifted Coordinator: Janet Cornelius, JCornelius@ebrschools.org
<https://www.westdalemiddleschool.com/>

Westdale Middle is a special place where students and faculty come from all over the world to be a part of the Gifted, Talented, Great Scholars Academy and Foreign Language Immersion Programs. During the 2020-2021 school year, Westdale will be exploring "what it means to be a global citizen." Westdale is committed to educating all students to be contributing members of a global society. To achieve this goal, Westdale added programs such as Aquaponics and Global Studies, as well as expanded its partnership with Humanities Amped. Mrs. Duet loves seeing her students grow in their knowledge of science. Her gifted science class designed an experiment to test how water heats up when thermal energy is added. This activity is one example of the hands-on, individualized lessons for gifted students. Westdale continues to offer courses for high school credit.



Woodlawn Middle School

Gifted Coordinator: Cindy Phillips, CPhillips24@ebrschools.org
<https://www.woodlawnmiddlebr.org/>

Woodlawn Middle is offering an exciting, new elective this school year. Students in 7th grade Gifted and Great Scholars Academy programs can choose Human Anatomy and Physiology to learn about the human body and its systems in a hands-on, enriched way. The elective is taught by Mr. Philippe, a gifted-certified science teacher with a bachelor's degree in medicine. He is very knowledgeable and excited about the subject matter, and students enjoy his classes and the creative way he presents the concepts. Whether it's thinking about pursuing a future career in a medical field or just wanting to know more about the human body to live a healthy lifestyle, this class offers that opportunity for students.



High School Programs >>>

McKinley Senior High School

Gifted Coordinator: Billie Smith, BSmith90@ebrschools.org
<https://www.mckinleyhighbr.org/> [f](#) @MckinleyMedia [t](#) @SGA_MCK

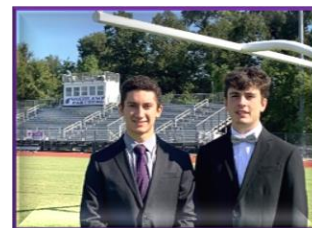
McKinley High School's Gifted and Talented Program prides itself on providing an individualized education program for each of our students. Abigail Bordelon, Class of 2020, exemplifies this commitment. She is identified as both academically gifted as well as talented in music. Abby graduated first in her class in only three years. An Advanced Placement Scholar, Abby earned college credit in U.S. Government and Politics, Human Geography, and English Language and Composition. Through LSU Dual Enrollment, she also earned six hours of college credit in English. Abby volunteered through Key Club and at the Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center at Woman's Hospital. She was a community leader with the Baton Rouge Youth Coalition. With the help of BRYC and her preparation at McKinley High, Abby's hard work was rewarded when she was accepted to, and received a scholarship from, Dartmouth University. Her McKinley High family is proud of all she has achieved!



Woodlawn High School

Gifted Coordinator: Danelle Miller, DMiller@ebrschools.org
<https://woodlawnhighbr.org/> [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) @WoodlawnHighBR

Woodlawn High ranks among the top schools in EBR and offers students a high school experience that includes athletics, arts, and academics. Students with artistic talent and intellectual aptitude excel in Academically Gifted, Great Scholars Academy and Talented Arts programs. Joshua Serio and Ray Sierra are two academically gifted students who found success at WHS. Graduating in the top 5%, Josh was quarterback of the football team, recognized as a National Merit Semi-Finalist, and earned nine college credit hours through Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment programs. Ray was a five-sport athlete, National Hispanic Scholar, AP Scholar and National Merit Commended student. He graduated as Salutatorian and earned 27 college credit hours. Josh is studying electrical engineering at LSU, and Ray is pursuing a degree in aerospace engineering at Notre Dame University. While Josh and Ray earned college scholarships for their hard work in high school, they both agree that playing football under the "Friday Night Lights" was their fondest memory of Woodlawn.



"EBRPSS Gifted and Talented Programs: As Unique and Exceptional as Your Child."