

**The Lincoln East High Program for
Gifted and High Ability Learners**

**An Informational Brochure
for Students and Parents
2008-2009**

THE LINCOLN EAST HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR GIFTED AND HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICY

Lincoln Public Schools recognizes the importance of meeting the needs of gifted students. These students think abstractly, study in-depth, and learn rapidly. To serve this group, the LPS School Board developed Policy 6300. This policy outlines the services available for gifted students.

East High has developed a program designed to challenge and enrich gifted students. This brochure explains components of East's program.

IDENTIFICATION

School psychologists administer I.Q. tests as early as elementary school but parents may request an I.Q. test at any age. Schools use the results of this test to qualify students for the Gifted Program. In addition, any student who produces work of exceptional quality and/or shows evidence of outstanding performance is a possible candidate for the Gifted Program.

NOMINATION

Lincoln East High School uses the following steps to nominate a student not identified through I.Q. testing.

1. An advocate (parent, peer, staff member, community member, or self) contacts the facilitator for the Gifted Program and completes a Nomination Letter. This letter is submitted to the facilitator.
2. The facilitator makes subject area checklists available to teachers and departments.
3. The facilitator requests letters and other documentation from student, parent(s)/guardian(s), and peers when appropriate.
4. The facilitator creates a file for the student of such items as previous standardized test scores, cumulative grade record, and any other relevant information from the student's file. The facilitator may also meet with appropriate teachers and/or department chairs. The computer generated cumulative record and teacher checklists are organized for the Data Gathering Team.
5. Based on steps 1-3, the facilitator or Data Gathering Team may request additional information, such as anecdotal documentation, student products, portfolios, etc.
6. The Data Gathering Team after examining the student's cumulative record decides whether or not to include the student as part of the Gifted Program with gifted status. The nominator may request that the student be evaluated for both gifted and highly gifted status.
7. Once the Data Gathering Team makes a decision, the facilitator informs parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student. If the gifted status changes, the school principal also sends a letter to verify that LPS recorded the decision.
8. If parent(s)/guardian(s) are not in agreement with the Data Gathering Team, there is an appeal process.

PREVIOUS IDENTIFICATION

Students who have been identified in the LPS system or from another district as gifted before transferring to East High retain their identification as gifted.

CLASSES FOR HIGH ABILITY LEARNERS

East High offers HAL classes in the areas of Business, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and World Languages. Most classes that fulfill graduation requirements offer advanced sections. In addition, East offers a number of courses that count for college credit at UN-L, Nebraska Wesleyan and Southeast Community College. Finally, most elective areas of the curriculum offer advanced or in-depth courses.

Teachers design differentiated, Advanced Placement, and advanced classes to provide for in-depth, abstract, and/or accelerated study. East's gifted program has always been committed to a policy of open enrollment which allows students into differentiated, Advanced Placement, and/or advanced classes **whether identified gifted or not.**

MENTORS AND UNIVERSITY CLASSES

Highly gifted students may apply for mentors (as available) or classes at area universities or colleges if their academic needs cannot be met through classes offered at East, however, a student cannot have a mentor and a university class at the same time. Occasionally, gifted students are eligible for mentors or university classes. East's Data Gathering Team and the LPS Steering Committee make these decisions.

COMMUNICATION

The East gifted facilitator is Ken Flowerday. He can assist with specific student needs and answer questions about the gifted program. He can be reached at school at 436-1302, extension 434.

Information about the gifted program is available on the East High web site. All parents receive information periodically in the Spartan Newsletter about gifted and high ability learning. Parents of identified gifted students also receive district mailings about meetings and information concerning gifted education.

Useful Resources:

LPS Gifted Program

<http://sites.lps.org/gifted/>

Nebraska Association for the Gifted—Serving gifted children in our state

<http://www.negifted.org/501.html>

National Association for Gifted Children—Trains teachers, encourages parent and educates administrators and policy makers on how to develop and support gifted children

<http://www.nagc.org>

ERIC EC Gifted Education—Gifted students with disabilities are often called twice exceptional. Searchable database: <http://www.sedoparking.com/ericec.org>

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ambassadors
Anime Club
Art Club
Business Club/Microtech
DECA
Destination Imagination
Dollfins
Drama Club/International Thespian Society
Ecology Club
Forensics (Speech/Debate)
Future Business Leaders of America
French Club
Future Educators Association
German Club
GLBTSA
Invisible Children
Jazz Club
Key Club
Medical Club
Math Club
Martial Arts Club
Mock Trial
National Honor Society
Peer Network Club
Penned Club
POWER Club
Publications
Sci-Fi Club
Science Olympiad
Spanish Club
Tri-M Music Honor Society
United Voices
Verse Club
Student Democrats
Instrumental Groups
Vocal Groups

PROGRAM DESIGN TEAM

Ken Flowerday, Gifted Facilitator, Chair
Brenda Leggiadro, Chair, Counseling
Liz Miller, Associate Principal
Tim Bayne, Chair, Social Studies
Susan Ptacek, Chair, World Languages
Jane Dougherty, Chair, Mathematics
Dutch Fichthorn, Teacher English
Peg Trumble, Chair, Business
Connie Arends, Teacher, Science
Susan Dwyer, Parent
Guy Southwick, Parent
Tom Bolin, Student
Hannah Sher, Student
Alexa Ross, Student
Jay DuPont, Student
Ad Hoc Members:
Sue Casata, Principal
Dr. Joan Jacobs, Gifted Consultant
Dennis Mann, Associate Principal

DATA GATHERING TEAM

Ken Flowerday, Gifted Facilitator, Chair
Dr. Mike Cruce, School Psychologist
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Brenda Leggiadro, Chair, Counseling
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Connie Arends, Teacher, Science
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Marge Keep, Chair, FCS
Tim Bayne, Chair, Social Science
Jeff McCabe, Chair, Ind. Tech., Alternate