



Meadow Lake Elementary
8525 62nd Avenue North
New Hope MN 55428
763-504-7700

5/19/2020

Dear Robbinsdale Area Schools families,

Thank you for all you are doing to support our students at home during this time. Our goal is to see all, serve all and support all. As we move forward in planning the 2020-2021 school year, we are excited to share updates on Gifted & Talented (GT) programming and services.

The following is a summary of what was implemented and accomplished during the school year:

- Increased access to GT programming by expanding Young Scholars from Grade 1 to include Grade 2 across the district.
- Enhanced communication with families, including development of our GT Newsletter and district-wide parent meetings.
- Engaged in curriculum development and planning sessions for middle school Advanced Academic Courses, including Grade 6 Humanities, Grade 7 Science, Grade 7 Humanities and Grade 8 Science.
- Conducted differentiation training professional learning for staff.
- Refined the identification process for GT programs and services including: administering CogAT Screener to Grade 2 students; updating class identification protocols and procedures; and researching use of teacher rating scales (HOPE Scale) in the 21-22 identification process.
- Continued our AP and IB programs in our high schools.

We continue to implement programming in alignment with our Unified District Vision and Equity Policy, including refining our GT five-year plan. As we have continued assessing the needs of our district, including listening to feedback (from students, parents, teachers and other stakeholders) we will focus on the following for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Expanding Young Scholars in all Grades 1 and 2 classrooms; Young Scholars will increase from nine weeks to fifteen weeks.
- Continuing to strengthen our core and supplemental instruction (Focus) through enhancing differentiation in our elementary schools (Grades 3-5), and ensuring programming aligns with our targeted enrichment services. We will better align Focus with What I Need (WIN) supplemental instruction and enrichment time.
 - ❑ Based on feedback from stakeholders (students, teachers, parents, principals) we will not move forward with Total School Cluster Grouping in our elementary schools. Instead, we are implementing services which better align with our district's beliefs (Unified District Vision) and values (Equity Policy).
- Implementing Advanced Academic Courses in Grades 6-8.
- Continued professional learning for staff on differentiation (choice menus, depth of knowledge, data informed decision making and higher level thinking skills).

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in our shared commitment to ensuring academic and social-emotional growth in all of our students. We value your feedback and support as we continue refining our district-wide plan.

Sincerely,

Carla Reeck
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Chad Libby
Gifted & Talented Coordinator

