

Is My Child Gifted? How do I know?

All children are special and have their own areas of strength. However, some children have unusually advanced abilities that require special adjustments at home and school to help them grow and learn. As you watch your child grow and develop, you may notice skills or characteristics that are quite different from those of other children the same age.

For example, your child may exhibit the following traits:

- Be very curious and observant
- Use adult-sounding words and reasoning
- Think of many unusual ideas
- Recognize complex patterns or relationships
- Come to surprising solutions to problems
- Show a strong memory
- Ask unusual questions
- Demonstrate advanced academic abilities
- Learn letters or numbers early and read before being formally taught

Children can show giftedness in a variety of ways, and often parents are the first to notice special abilities. If you are seeing a number of these behaviors in your children, it might be a signal that their development is advanced.

SCPS Identification Information:

[Stafford County Public Schools Gifted Services Identification Process](#)

Contact Information

If you would like to learn more about SCPS' gifted services, please contact your school's gifted resource teacher and/or the gifted facilitator.

Elementary Schools

Anthony Burns	Destine Bradshaw	(540) 658-6800
Conway	Sophia Ryder	(540) 361-1455
Falmouth	TBD	(540) 373-7458
Ferry Farm	Paulah Lee	(540) 373-7366
Garrisonville	Betty Fitzhugh	(540) 658-6260
Grafton Village	Katie Kooiman	(540) 373-5454
Hampton Oaks	Nicole Sutton	(540) 658-6280
Hartwood	Stephanie McKeever	(540) 752-4441
Kate Waller Barrett	Kathy Carpenter	(540) 658-6464
Margaret Brent	Michelle Porter	(540) 658-6790
Moncure	TBD	(540) 658-6300
Park Ridge	Lee Hammers	(540) 658-6320
Rockhill	Jodi Carthron	(540) 658-6360
Rocky Run	Casey Stewart	(540) 286-1956
Stafford	TBD	(540) 658-6340
Widewater	Christine Antonucci	(540) 658-6380
Winding Creek	Roxanne Fields	(540) 658-6400

Middle Schools

Focus Art 6-8	Tyler Clarke	(540) 373-0383
A.G. Wright	Leigh Wiegert	(540) 658-6240
Dixon-Smith	Lisa Arthur	(540) 899-0860
Drew	Rebecca Musso	(540) 371-1415
Gayle	Rachael Matern	(540) 373-0383
H.H. Poole	Audra DeFiore	(540) 658-6190
Rodney Thompson	Scott Trotta	(540) 658-6420
Shirley Heim	Jack Harding	(540) 658-5910
Stafford	Tammy Houk	(540) 658-6210

High Schools

Brooke Point	Kevin Bouffard	(540) 658-6080
Colonial Forge	Susan Easter	(540) 658-6115
Mountain View	Kali Hamill	(540) 658-6840
North Stafford	Felicitia Cardenas	(540) 658-6150
Stafford	Helga Purnell	(540) 371-7200



SCPS Gifted Facilitator Contact Information

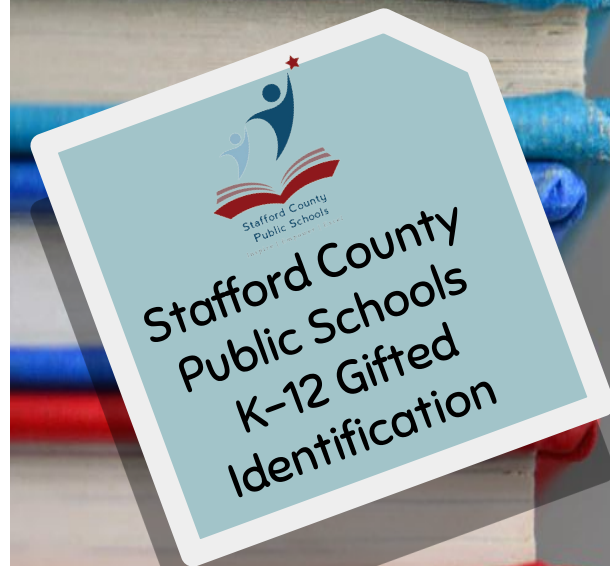
Stephanie Fellinger, Ed.D

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K-12 Gifted and Secondary Programs Facilitator

Stafford County Public Schools

(540) 658-6689



What is Giftedness?

Definition: Students who are gifted possess the potential to achieve high levels of accomplishment that need to be recognized and addressed. They demonstrate extraordinary intellectual performance capability in general or specific aptitudes which qualifies them to receive special services in order to meet their educational needs.



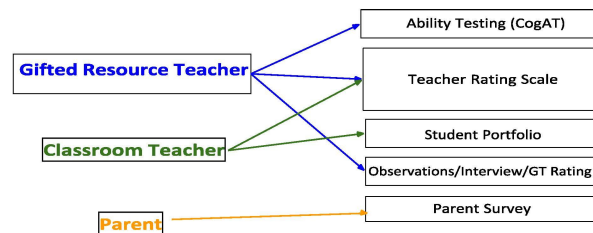
SCPS GSP Commitment Statement

SCPS is committed to developing programs that strive to do the following:

- engage students in inquiry;
- provide opportunities for students to experiment and analyze information critically;
- encourage students to make conjectures and debate their validity
- enable students to solve problems both individually and collaboratively.

We are dedicated to preparing and producing 21st Century Learners today for all of our tomorrows.

1. **Ability Testing** – students are assessed using the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT).
2. **Achievement Testing** – nationally normed achievement tests, such as MAP and STAR, are used to determine accelerated performance.
3. **Teacher Rating Scale** – classroom teacher contributes frequency data in relation to gifted qualities displayed.
4. **Student Work Portfolio** – two gifted resource teachers will evaluate the student’s portfolio of work samples.
5. **Gifted Resource Teacher Observation/interview** – gifted resource teacher conducts class observations and/or interviews.
6. **Parent Survey** – parents will reflect on students learning and social/emotional characteristics.



Evaluation - 5 pieces to the puzzle

[Gifted Development Center](#) - Dr. Silverman provides information about giftedness and raising a gifted child.

[National Association for Gifted Children](#) (NAGC) – is an organization of parents, educators, other professionals and community leaders to address the unique needs of children and youth.

[The Association for the Gifted](#) (TAG), focuses on multi-exceptional and other diverse learners, through advocacy, professional learning, and resources.

[Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted](#) (SENG) – helps ensure that gifted children are understood, accepted, nurtured, and supported by their families, schools, and workplaces.

[The Davidson Institute for Talent Development:](#) – extensive resources for highly gifted students (and their parents).

[Virginia Association for the Gifted](#) (VAG) – Connects and empowers parents, students, and educators to be active and innovative advocates for appropriate instruction, services, and opportunities for gifted and talented learners.