



High Ability Learner Program

Providing challenging educational experiences that
encourage students to learn.

Please sign in.

(Updated August 2019)

MPS HAL Philosophy Statement

The HAL Philosophy is that in the continuing pursuit of educational excellence, the Millard Public Schools will recognize and develop the unique talents and diverse qualities of students with high academic, intellectual, creative, and/or artistic ability so that each child will be challenged to achieve his or her full potential. This will be accomplished through a partnership of students, home, school and community, clearly defined criteria for identification and curriculum development and measurable standards of student performance, and broad-based and diverse educational opportunities.



MPS HAL Goal

The goal of the HAL program is to provide appropriately challenging educational experiences that will encourage students to learn, to challenge themselves, and to contribute positively to society. The program is designed for the development of a healthy self-concept, an understanding of human diversity, and the life skills necessary for personal success and responsible living.



Identification Process

Grades 6-8

Grades 2-8 take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) in February/March.

- Candidates must have three data points for testing:
 - MAP scores at/above 90th%ile
 - NSCAS scores at/above 90th%ile
 - SIGS Home or School rating form above 110
 - Documentation of HAL inclusion from another district

Students scoring 127 and above on the CogAT qualify for HAL.



District Level Services

Students can be verified in three areas:

- Mathematics
- Language Arts
- Visual Spatial

Each 6th – 8th grade HAL student is invited to **two** district seminars per year:

- Architecture, Celebrate Creativity, CyberSurgery, Engineering, Extreme Math Day, Forensics CSI, Genetics, Finance, DeSoto Refuge, Biodiversity, Dissection, Battle of the Books, Mock Trial, Wildlife Conservation, Biomechanics, Writing Workshop, Zoo Studies, Theater
- Invitations are based on student interest survey.



Information for Visual-Spatial Learners

Hoagies Gifted

<http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/visual-spatial.htm>

Raising Topsy-Turvy Kids by Alexandra Shires Golon

Upside-Down Brilliance by Linda Silverman



Building Level Services

- Word Masters
- Acting Workshops / Drama Club
- Dissections
- Spelling Bee
- Geography Bee
- Quiz Bowl
- Math Counts / Math Competitions
- Quiz Bowl
- Chess Club
- Genius Hour
- Science Club / Science Olympiad
- Language Clubs
- Gaming Club
- Writing Club



Classroom Level Services

- Leveled Math Classes
- Grammar Extensions
- Literature Extensions
- Reading Extensions
- Science Extensions
- Social Studies Extensions
- Writing Extensions
- Honors English 8
- HAL Challenge 6,7,8



Differentiation

- Training
- Team/PLC planning
- Pretesting and/or Formative Assessment
- Compacting units
- Enrichment



Survey Results

We continually seek to improve!



What does high school
look like for students of
high ability?



9-12 Honors & AP Courses

Honors English classes

Honors Math classes

Honors World Lang classes

AP Macro, AP Micro

AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles

AP Lang, AP Lit

AP Stats, AP Calc AB and BC, Calculus II, Calculus III

AP Environmental Science

AP Chemistry, AP Biology, AP Physics

AP US or European or World History

AP US Government, AP Comparative Gov

AP Human Geography

AP Psychology

AP French, AP German, AP Spanish, AP Latin

AP Music Theory

Special Programs

- International Baccalaureate Programme @ MNHS
- Early College @ MSHS
- Academies (Education, Health Sciences, Distribution & Logistics Management, Entrepreneurship)
- Air Force JROTC
- Zoo Academy
- UNMC High School Alliance



9-12 Building Services PREVIEW

National Honor Society

Art Club

Chamber Orchestra

Classics Club

Language Clubs

Key Club

Science Club

Technology Club

Literary Club

Math Club/Competitions

Health Occupations Students of America

Debate & Forensics (classes and club)

Drama (classes and a club)

Student Council

Music Clubs



Would you like more information?

Millard Public Schools Website

- <http://www.mpsomaha.org> > Departments > Curriculum > High Ability Learners

YOUR SCHOOL'S home page



National Association for Gifted Children

- www.nagc.org

Nebraska Association for Gifted

- www.negifted.org or Facebook, Twitter

Hoagies Gifted Education

- <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/>

YOUR NAME, NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS

