

USR Philosophy Statement

The Upper Saddle River Schools are committed to meeting the needs of all students by providing challenging educational programs and opportunities that lead to higher-level learning. Enrichment Specialists collaborate with classroom teachers to both modify and extend existing units of study through differentiated instruction.

In accordance with NJ Department of Education mandates, students are identified annually and appropriate instructional adaptations are made.

Once identified, a child will automatically remain identified until s/he leaves that school.



Quad-district Enrichment Program Criteria

The identification of academically talented students occurs through regionally developed procedures that involve multiple measures including: standardized testing, tests of cognitive skills, and teacher input based on student behavior and performance.

Entering grades K-3

- The Quad-district Primary Checklist for Academic Identification
- The Quad-district Primary Checklist for Behavioral Identification

Entering grades 4-8

- Test of cognitive abilities
- NJASK results
- Quad-district Checklist for Enrichment Identification

Upper Saddle River School District

Enrichment Program



REYNOLDS SCHOOL

The Reynolds School Enrichment Program integrates the current curriculum to engage and excite students in learning. Based on current research methods of teaching gifted students, the Reynolds Enrichment Program begins by identifying students' interests, learning styles, and expression styles. Using this data, lessons are developed by the Enrichment Specialist in collaboration with the classroom teacher. Identified students work within their classrooms, alongside the Enrichment Specialist, to develop skills in creative problem solving and complex thinking.

Additionally, the Enrichment Specialist serves as a teacher-facilitator for techniques of differentiation and curriculum compacting for primary classrooms. Parent conferences are available by appointment for parents of identified students in the fall.

Reynolds School strives to provide excellent learning opportunities for the school-wide population. Assemblies held throughout the year may feature children's authors, music and dance performances, and historical life experiences. Class field trips boost interest in curriculum areas, as well. Careful planning and communication helps to develop the talents of all students.

BOGERT SCHOOL

The goal of the Bogert School Enrichment program is to provide able learners with academically stimulating experiences that nurture interests and abilities. The program builds upon the existing curricula to provide lessons and experiences that are challenging, meaningful, and appropriate for the needs of the students. The Enrichment Specialist works with groups of identified students on curriculum-related activities. Higher-level thinking strategies, critical thinking, and collaboration are encouraged in all lessons and independent study projects.

The Enrichment Specialist also works closely with classroom teachers to develop, design, and implement units of study that challenge and meet the needs of all students. Differentiation of instruction in the classroom is a component of the school's enrichment program.

Bogert School provides various whole-school enrichment opportunities such as the school newspaper, Continental Math League, and Discovery Day, in which students can self-select based on interest. By enabling students to make discoveries in various areas of interest, we will help open doors, expand opportunities, and broaden possibilities for our children.

CAVALLINI MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Cavallini Middle School Enrichment Program enhances the existing curriculum by providing experiences that are challenging, meaningful, and enriching. The specific activities and projects differ from grade level to grade level. The teacher "pushes in" to all grade level programs by having student presentations related to the interdisciplinary units.

The "pull out" sixth grade program engages students in activities involving problem solving, higher-level thinking skills and an accelerated vocabulary program that expand the curriculum.

The seventh grade program includes the monthly Bergen Brain Buster competitions with the weekly practices. The program also includes the Stock Market Game, interdisciplinary activities, and is the liaison for the Johns Hopkins Talent search.

The eighth grade program includes the Stock Market Competition and monthly Bergen Brain Buster competitions with the weekly practices. This culminates with the county tournament. The teacher also serves as liaison for his students to high school.

The enrichment specialist works closely with the classroom teachers and counselors to ensure that the academic, social, and emotional needs of the academically talented students are met.

