

### ***Gifted Education in Cherry Creek Schools***

- The Cherry Creek School District believes that gifted and talented students have unique academic, social and emotional needs. Cherry Creek administrators and teachers support a philosophy that emphasizes the need for a challenging learning environment that focuses on high achievement for every student.
- Programming for gifted and talented students must be responsive to individual needs and must recognize the multiple talents, challenges, and cultural diversity of the districts population.
- Gifted and talented students are entitled to a dynamic, challenging educational program at every level throughout their school career.
- The recognition and identification of these students, commitment to meeting their needs, and dedication to maximizing their academic performance remains a uniform priority.

### ***For more information call:***

The Cherry Creek Office  
of Gifted Education and Advanced Learning  
720.554.4257

or

The Office of the GT Development Specialist  
720.554.4943

or

The GT Resource Teacher in Your Child's School

Or

Cherry Creek Gifted and Talented Website  
[www.cherrycreekschools.org/GT](http://www.cherrycreekschools.org/GT)

Cherry Creek School District  
Educational Services Center  
4700 South Yosemite Street  
Greenwood Village, CO  
80111



CherryCreekSchools



**Gifted and  
Talented  
Education  
In  
Cherry Creek  
School District**

## **Common Characteristics**

### **Common Strengths**

- Intellectually advanced in areas such as mathematics, technology, literature, science
- Commands extensive vocabulary, sometimes in multiple languages
- Unusual sensitivity to physical and emotional stimuli
- Often intensely expressive
- Mature sense of humor
- Highly creative
- Extraordinarily curious and persistent
- Maintains high ethical standards
- Enjoys complex thinking, problem solving, and discussions
- Varied or narrow interests
- Easily grasps abstract concepts
- Active learner with high level of energy
- Compassionate concern for social issues

### **Possible Behavioral Challenges**

- Uneven development (intellectual, emotional, social, physical)
- Impatience with others
- Feeling uncomfortable/mismatched with age peers
- Vulnerable in social situations with age peers
- Strong-willed
- Misunderstood
- Perfectionistic
- Frustrated with mental and/or physical inactivity
- Nonconforming
- Underachieving academically
- Lacking initiative
- Avoiding risk-taking
- Excessive self-criticism

## **District Definition**

The Cherry Creek School District defines gifted and talented students in accordance with the federal definition from the 1988 Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act and the 1993 National Excellence Report:

*Gifted and talented are:*

- Children and youth with outstanding talent who perform or show the potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment.
- These children and youth exhibit high performance capability in intellectual, creative, and/or artistic areas, may possess an unusual capacity for leadership, or excel in specific academic fields. They require services or activities not ordinarily provided by the schools.
- Outstanding talents are present in children and youth from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor.

## **Programming Options**

The Cherry Creek School District supports research-based strategies that provide opportunities for optimal learning to ensure that gifted and talented students will perform at levels matching their abilities and maximizing their potential.

Because Cherry Creek School District is committed to site-based management and because each school reflects the needs and values of its unique community, the service options for gifted students will vary among schools across the district. The following are examples of such options:

- Flexible cluster grouping based on learning needs, readiness, and ability
- Curriculum compacting (allows student to advance to next learning level when appropriate)
- Acceleration (by grade or subject when appropriate)
- Differentiation (adjustment of content, process and product) based on student's academic need and ability
- Pull-out classes with instructional specialists during the school day but outside the regular classroom
- Enrichment programs and projects (additional opportunities for developing intellectual potential)
- Affective support (addressing social and emotional needs either for individuals or in groups)
- Advanced placement for special classes in content areas or elective courses, some for college credit
- Independent study projects
- Honors and high achievement diploma programs
- Magnet school programs for high ability learners
- Special GT seminars/classes