

Frequently Asked Questions – Middle School Quest Program

(These can also be found on the Gifted Education Advisory Council (GEAC) website at www.lwsdgeac.org)

1) What are the different Quest programs?

There are three types of Quest programs:

- **Pull-out Quest** (enrichment one day per week for grades 2-5)
- **Full-time Elementary Quest** (accelerated classroom five days per week for grades 2-5)
- **Middle School Quest** (accelerated program for grades 6-8; *there is no pull out program in middle school*)

2) Is there a Quest program in high school?

LWSD does not offer a Quest program in high school. Based on individual interests and goals, students have a number of accelerated program options in high school including Advanced Placement courses, the Cambridge program, Signature Programs, Choice schools, College in the High School, and Running Start.

3) Does my child need to test every year to stay in Quest?

Once students are enrolled in Quest, they do not need to test again to remain in Quest, **except** for Pull-out Quest students who wish to apply to Full-time elementary Quest or Middle School Quest. Pull-out elementary Quest students wishing to participate in Middle School Quest must apply in 5th grade.

4) Where would my child attend school in the Quest program?

Unless your neighborhood school happens to be the location of your child's Quest program, your child would be going to a different school at one of the designated Quest locations. Feeder patterns for the current year are available on the LWSD Accelerated Programs website. Be aware that Quest school feeder patterns and school assignments can change from year to year.

5) How would my child get to and from his/her Quest school?

If your child's Quest school is *not* your neighborhood school, you have a choice for your child to take a Quest school bus or for parent drop off/pick up at the Quest school.

- **A Quest school bus is not a neighborhood school bus; it makes designated stops (usually near other schools) to pick up and drop off Quest students. It is the parents' responsibility to get the student to and from the designated Quest bus stop.**
- There is no fee for Middle School Quest students to take the Quest bus.
- Neither the Quest office nor the Gifted Education Advisory Council (GEAC) is able to arrange or facilitate carpools.
- Families typically receive a postcard in late August indicating the location and schedule of their Quest bus stop. You can also check the Bus Finder page on the LWSD website beginning in late August.
- Any questions regarding Quest transportation should be directed to the LWSD Transportation department.

6) How many students are in a Quest classroom?

The number of students in a Quest classroom is typically the same as for general education classrooms.

7) What do students study in the Middle School Quest program?

- Math: Quest 6th graders study 7th and 8th grade district math curriculum units with a Quest teacher. All 6th graders in the district test at the end of the year to determine which math program they will enroll in for 7th grade (General Math or Algebra). Quest 7th and 8th graders (along with any other qualifying middle school students) take math classes with non-Quest middle school teachers based on the math program they test into at the end of 6th grade.
- Language Arts: Each grade (6th, 7th, and 8th) studies Language Arts with a Quest teacher, working one level above their grade level.
- Social Studies: Each grade (6th, 7th, and 8th) studies Social Studies with a Quest teacher, enriching and going deeper into the curriculum for their grade level.
- Science: Each grade (6th, 7th, and 8th) studies Science with a Quest teacher, enriching and going deeper into the curriculum for their grade level.
- Electives: Electives are the same as those for – and are taken with – general education students.

8) Do Middle School Quest teachers teach only Quest classes?

Most Middle School Quest teachers also teach general education classes in their subject area.

9) Where do I find the Middle School supply list?

Quest students use the school-wide, grade-level supply list typically posted on the website for your child's Quest school. If there are any additional supplies required by your child's Quest teachers, they typically will be posted there as well or requested after school starts.