

# Advanced Academic Programs (AAP)

## Overview of Available Elementary Services

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Services Available for Grades K-6



# Fairfax County Schools (FCPS) Beliefs

- All students deserve an excellent education.
- Students learn best when educators, parents, and students work together.
- High expectations lead to high performance.
- All students need opportunities to use strengths and pursue interests.

# Virginia Department of Education

## ‘Gifted’ Definition

“Gifted students means those students...  
who demonstrate high levels of accomplishment or  
who show the potential for higher levels of accomplishment  
when compared to others of the same age, experience, or  
environment.”

# Virginia Department of Education

## Gifted Regulation

All Virginia school divisions must:

- identify gifted students, and
- provide instructional services to meet their needs.



## FCPS VA Local Plan for the Gifted

Information related to FCPS Advanced Academic Services

### FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted 2016-2021

Each school division in Virginia develops a comprehensive plan for the education of the gifted. The FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted provides specific explanations of FCPS' implementation of Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students in Virginia.

# Two **Goals** of the Advanced Academic Programs

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FCPS AAP strives to develop the talents of all students and provide challenge through:

- **Talent development**
- **Differentiation** to meet the needs of **advanced learners**.

## Talent Development

What does Talent Development look like in Fairfax County Public Schools?

- Instructional opportunities to use AAP curriculum and strategies.
- Working with students to identify and explore areas of interest.
- Attention to underrepresented groups through the Young Scholars Model.

## **Differentiation to Meet the Needs of Advanced Learners**

### **What does Differentiating for Advanced Learners mean in Fairfax County Public Schools?**

- Meeting students' needs to go beyond grade level standards by name and need.
- Ensuring access to differentiated curriculum and environment including increased depth and complexity, different pacing, and less scaffolding.
- Ensuring time to work with similar academic peer group to ensure peer-to-peer feedback to promote growth.
- Academic advising and complementary supports for success through implementation of the Young Scholars model.



# AAP Continuum of Services

AAP offers a continuum of services to challenge and engage all students K-12. Our goals are:

- Provide deeper learning and talent development opportunities to all students
- Identify and build upon student strengths and abilities
- Provide multiple entry points to meet diverse student needs through the continuum of services

We believe talent can be nurtured and developed in all students. AAP services for a student may change over time.

## Advanced Academic Programs Overview

### Young Scholars Model - All K-12 Students

Elementary School: K-6	Middle School	High School
Tier 1 access to AAP curriculum & strategies (I)	IB Middle Years Program – Grades 6 -10 (selected schools)	
Differentiated Lessons in areas of Academic Strength (II)	Honors Courses in areas of Academic Strength/Interest Grades 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honors Courses</li> <li>• Advanced Placement (AP)</li> <li>• International Baccalaureate (IB)</li> <li>• Dual Enrollment Courses</li> <li>• Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology</li> </ul>
Part-Time Advanced Academic Program (III)		
Full-Time Advanced Academic Program (IV) - Grades 3-8		

*Adapted from the Integrated Continuum of Special Services by Sally Reis and Levels of Service by Donald Treffinger.*

## Advanced Academic Programs Grades K-12

### Young Scholars Model

FCPS developed the **Young Scholars Model** to help identify students from historically underrepresented populations for AAP services.

The model provides additional opportunity to **nurture talent and build confidence** so that students can meet their potential. The goal is to prepare Young Scholars for challenging courses and success in the future.

# ELEMENTARY

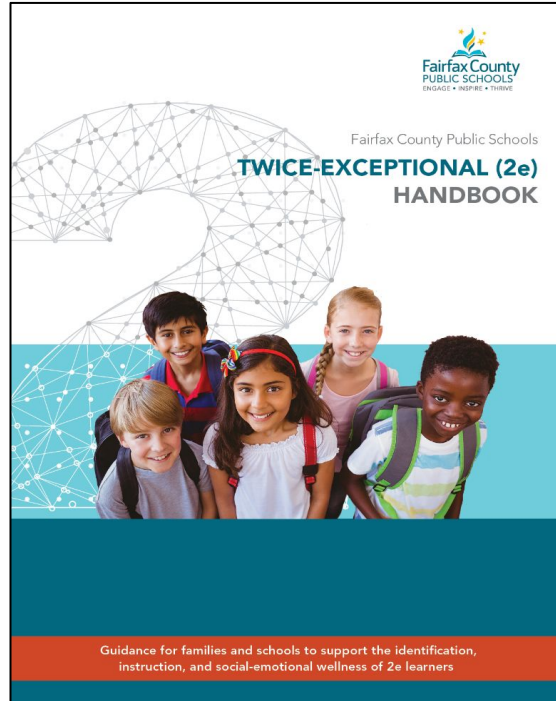
Grades K-6

## Young Scholars Model



# Advanced Academic Programs

## Twice-Exceptional (2e) Students



Twice-exceptional (2e) students have exceptional abilities and exceptional learning challenges.

**FCPS 2e Handbook:**  
Go to [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)  
and search **2e**

# **Advanced Academic Programs**

## **LEVELS OF SERVICE**

### **ELEMENTARY**

Grades K-6

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## ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

**Level I:**  
**Tier 1 access to**  
**AAP curriculum**  
**& strategies**

**Access for all**  
**students**

**All students** have opportunities to think critically, reason, and problem-solve.

- Critical and creative thinking strategies are used in lessons
- Teachers use advanced academic curriculum each quarter

# Critical and Creative Thinking Strategies

## ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

## Level I: Critical and Creative Thinking Strategies

Access for all  
students

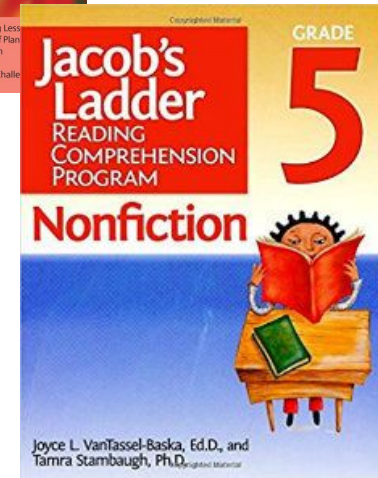
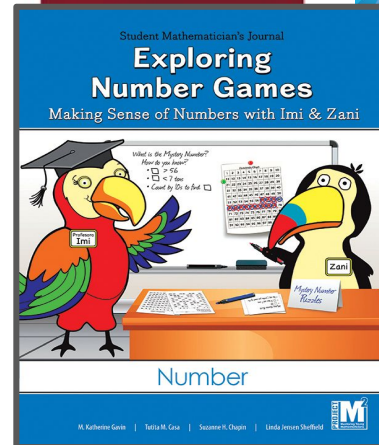
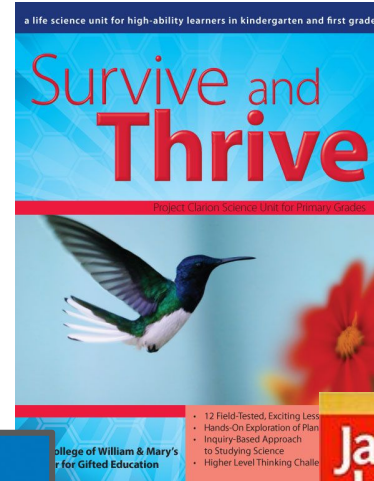


# ELEMENTARY

## Grades K-6

## Level I: AAP Curriculum

Access for all  
students



## **ELEMENTARY**

Grades K-6

**Level I:**  
**Tier 1 access to**  
**AAP curriculum &**  
**strategies**

**Access for all**  
**students**

All students in FCPS receive Level I Services as a part of their Tier I Instruction.

No referrals or screening process needed.

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## ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

### Level II: Differentiated Instruction in the classroom

Some students are strong in **one or more specific subject areas**. Classroom teachers may adjust instruction for students in these areas by:

- Providing different assignments and resources in those subjects
- Grouping students by their strengths, interests, and readiness

## ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

### Level II: Differentiated Instruction in the classroom

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child for part-time (Level II/III) AAP services.

- Submit a Level II/III referral form to the AART.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified after 30 business days regarding eligibility for Level II.
- In May, all students are also considered for school based services for the following school year.

Level II Services are re-evaluated each year.

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## ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

**Level III:**  
**Part-Time**  
**services with the**  
**AART**

Some students have advanced academic abilities in **multiple subject areas**. They need part-time AAP services.

AARTs and classroom teachers provide opportunities to work with a cluster group of students with similar academic needs in Language Arts, science, social studies, and/or mathematics.

## ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

### Level III: Part-Time services with the AART

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child for part-time (Level II/III) AAP services.

- Submit a Level II/III referral form to the AART.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified after 30 business days regarding eligibility for Level III.
- In May, all students are considered for school based services for the next school year.

Level III services continue through Grade 6. Students do not need to be evaluated each year.

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## ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

### Level IV: Full-Time services

Some advanced learners need a full-time advanced academic program, including differentiated instruction in all 4 content areas and access to a peer group with similar academic needs.

Students eligible for full-time AAP services receive:

- Advanced Language Arts, science, and social studies curriculum, and
- Math curriculum at least one year above grade level.

## ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

### Level IV: Full-Time services

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child to be screened for full-time AAP services.

- **Fall Screening** (only available to students who are new to FCPS since January) - referral and optional materials are due by **early October**.
- **Spring Screening** - referral and optional materials are due by **December 15**.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified according to the published **Testing and Identification Timeline**.

Level IV services continue through Grade 8. Students do not need to be evaluated each year.

## ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

### Ability Testing

What part does ability testing play in the screening process?

- Best practices in matching students to AAP services includes looking at the whole student.
- Ability testing is one of several data points considered in student portfolios.
- Ability testing is not weighted more than other items in student portfolios.

## ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

### Ability Testing

FCPS plans to offer the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) this school year.

- For the 2021-22 SY, all students in Grade 2 and Grade 3 will take the CogAT.

The one-time retest option for the Naglieri Nonverbal Abilities Test (NNAT) or CogAT test **is** available this school year.

- Parents/Guardians may request the one-time retest of either the CogAT or NNAT by contacting the school testing coordinator.
  - CogAT Retest Deadline: September 15
  - NNAT Retest Deadline: October 15

# Who to Contact

## Elementary Schools:

- Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART)
- Assistant Principal/School Testing Coordinator

## AAP Office:

- 571-423-4740
- [AAP@fcps.edu](mailto:AAP@fcps.edu)



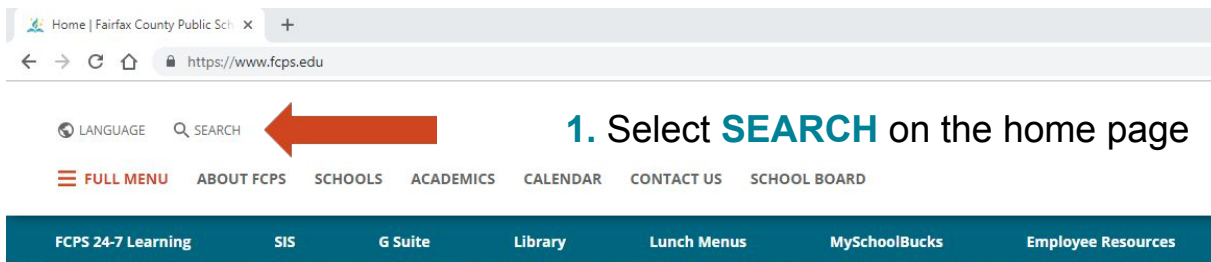
# Secondary Advanced Academic Programs

## Middle School and High School Contacts:

- Director of Student Services
- School Counselor

Please visit our website for additional information regarding opportunities available in middle school and high school.

# For more information: [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)



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[www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)