

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

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 different pacing, increased depth and complexity, and removing scaffolds.
- 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
Access to Rigor (Level I)	IB Middle Years Program – Grades 6 -10 (selected schools)	
Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation (Level II)	Honors Courses in areas of Academic Strength/Interest Grades 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honors Courses • Advanced Placement (AP) • International Baccalaureate (IB) • Dual Enrollment Courses • Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Part-Time Services (Level III)		
Full-Time Services - Grades 3-8 (Level IV)		

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

Advanced Academic Programs

Grades K-12

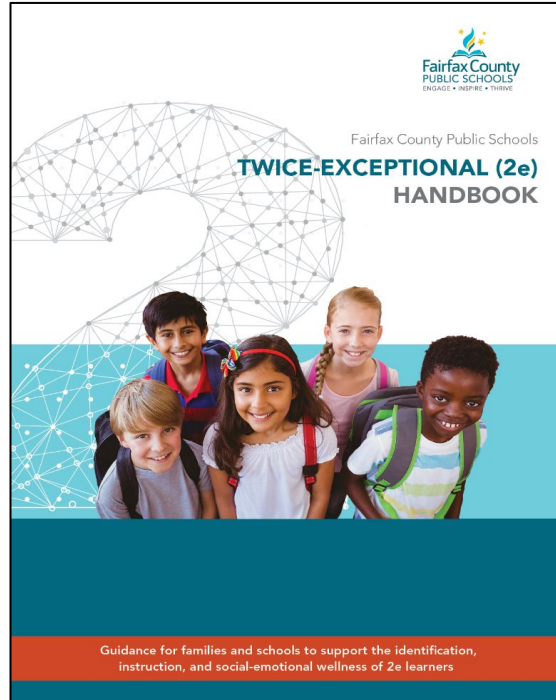
Young Scholars Model

The FCPS **Young Scholars Model** seeks to identify and affirm, from an early age, students with high academic potential from groups historically underrepresented in advanced academic programming.

The goal of the model is to eliminate barriers for Young Scholars' access to and success in advanced academic opportunities in elementary, middle, and high school.

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
and search **2e**

Advanced Academic Programs

AAP ELEMENTARY SERVICES

Grades K-6

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ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

AAP

Access to Rigor:

Level I

**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

AAP

Access to Rigor:

Level I

Critical and Creative Thinking Strategies

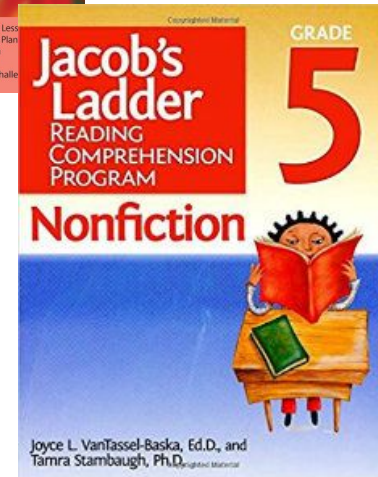
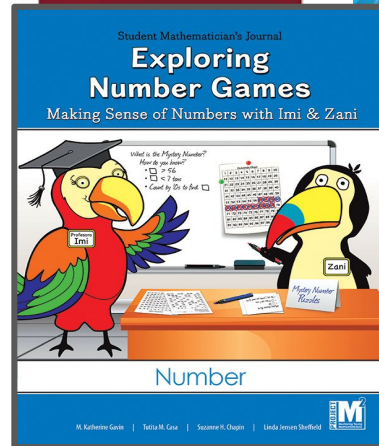
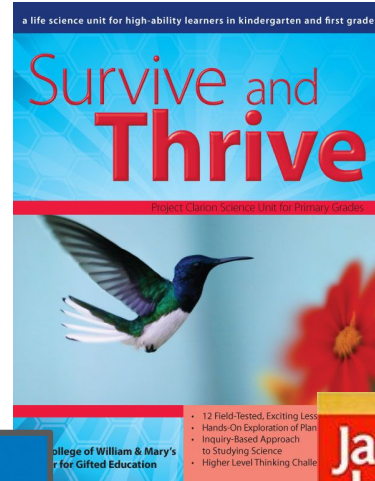


ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

AAP
Access to Rigor:
Level I

AAP Curricular
Resources



ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

AAP

Access to Rigor:

Level I

All students in FCPS receive Access to Rigor (Level I) Services as a part of their Tier I Instruction.

No referrals or screening process needed.

**Access for all
students**

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ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

AAP Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation: Level II

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

AAP Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation: Level II

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child for Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation (Level II) AAP services.

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

Subject-specific AAP Services are re-evaluated each year at the local school.

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ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

AAP Part-Time Services:

Level III

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

AAP Part-Time Services: Level III

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child for AAP Part-Time 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.

AAP part-time services continue through Grade 6. Students do not need to be evaluated each year.

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ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

AAP Full-Time Services:

Level IV

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, mathematics, science, and social studies curriculum, and
- Curriculum that is differentiated through acceleration, depth, and complexity of content.

ELEMENTARY

Grades 3-6

AAP Full-Time Services:

Level IV

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

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

AAP full-time services continue through Grade 8. Students do not need to be evaluated each year.

ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

Universal 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.

Universal testing means that all students take an ability test. Universal screening test is just one part of a holistic approach to matching students to available AAP services in FCPS.

ELEMENTARY

Grades K-6

Ability Testing

FCPS offers two ability tests to all students
(universal screener):

- Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT) in Grade 1
- Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) in Grade 2

One-time Retest Option

- Parents/Guardians may request the one-time retest of either the NNAT or CogAT by contacting the school testing coordinator.
 - CogAT Retest Deadline: September 30
 - NNAT Retest Deadline: October 15

Who to Contact

Elementary Schools:

- Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART)
 - Kaleigh Hartman
- Assistant Principal/School Testing Coordinator
 - Tracey Brown Rice

AAP Office:

- 571-423-4740
- AAP@fcps.edu

Secondary Advanced Academic Programs

Middle School Contacts

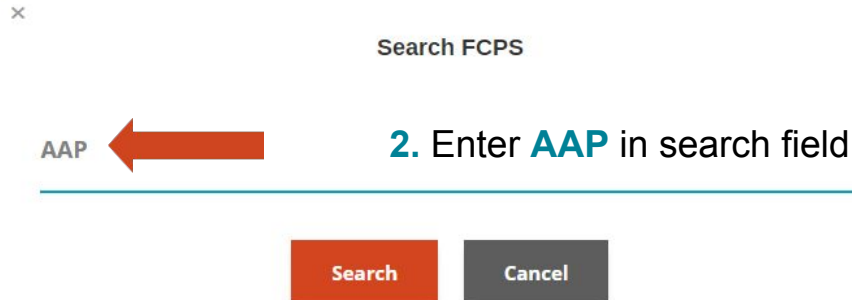
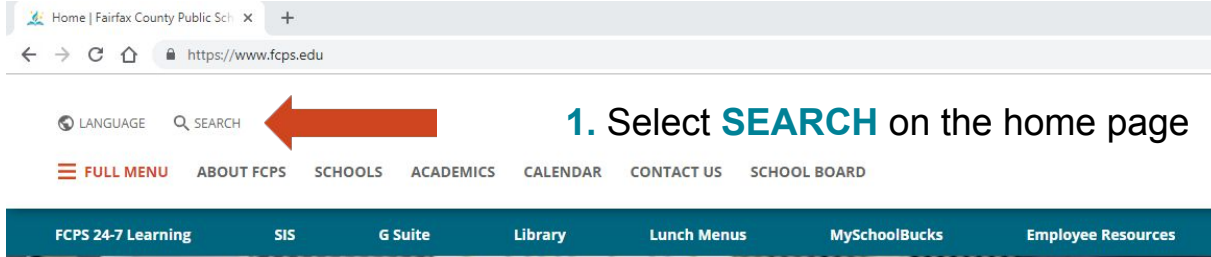
- AART
- Director of Student Services
- School Counselor

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



Questions

- **My children had NNATs done last year and have since moved into the Stenwood boundary and can't find the results? How can I access them?** Reach out to Kaleigh and we can send you the scores.
- **My child often comes home not eager to share what they are learning, how can we support them at home without knowing what they are learning?** Teachers are sharing topics covered in their weekly emails or newsletters. Teachers are including questions you can use to start a conversation with your child. You can mention ahead of your conference that you would like to hear more about the differentiation during the conference.
- **Where are level 2 services provided?** Classroom teachers provide level 2 services to teachers in all classes. Mrs. Hartman supports the planning to integrate curriculum resources
- **When is the NNAT administered for first graders?** NNAT window is March 6-17, we usually try to test early in the window to allow for makeups. We will send out a specific date typically at least a month in advance.
- **When is the cogat for 2nd graders?** October 12, 13, and 14 (it is a 3 part/3 day test)
- **Are all students eligible to apply for full-time AAP program or only rising 3rd - 7th?** Full-time services are only available for 3 - 6 grade students at the elementary level. Any students in grades 2 -6 may submit a referral for full-time screening. Parent referrals are due 12/15.

Questions

- **How do we access the Stenwood Parent Schoology Group?** Using your SIS ParentVue login, you can go to lms.fcps.edu to access. The code is `XJ4T-7SBK-JWWCZ`. If you have not set up your ParentVue account, please contact Sonja Hunt in our front office for assistance, snhunt@fcps.edu or call 703-208-7600.
- **For Kindergarteners is the best way to move forward to submit a referral for subject specific advanced support?** We naturally provide differentiation to all of our students as needed. We also screen all students K-5 for subject specific differentiation in May for the following year. You can always submit a Level II referral if you would like to.
- **What did you say about Kilmer Middle School?** - full-time services are available through 8th grade. Kilmer is our center school. They take all honors and are cohorted. All middle schools students are able to elect to take honors classes even if they are not eligible for full time services. Kilmer does not have an IB program, Marshall does. If you are zoned for Thoreau you have the option to attend Kilmer only if your child is centrally eligible for Level IV services.



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