

Highly Capable Learners

Puyallup School District

QUEST Program

Grades 3-6

Highly capable students in grades 3-6 find their unique learning needs addressed in regional classrooms located at one of 8 host schools throughout the district. Specialized instruction and curriculum are designed to promote higher-level thinking and provide a variety of learning experiences to challenge students. Students gain a deep understanding of content and strengthen basic skills in a full-time, highly capable environment. Intellectual peers provide social interaction and motivation to excel.

Located at Eight Elementary Schools

Host Schools:

Feeder Schools:

Brouillet	Carson
Dessie Evans.	Firgrove
Northwood.	Mt. View
Pope.	Hunt, Edgerton
Shaw Road.	Karshner, Stewart
Spinning.	Waller Road, Fruitland, Maplewood, Meeker
Sunrise.	Ridgecrest, Wildwood
Woodland	Zeiger

Specialists

Students in the QUEST Program have access to activities and specialists, such as music, P.E., and library, at their QUEST host school. Participation in band is strongly encouraged for 5th and 6th graders.

Transportation

Morning shuttles run between feeder schools and QUEST host schools. Unless students are walkers at the host school, afternoon transportation is provided to neighborhood bus stops. Parents may choose to drive their child to and from the QUEST host school.

Identification

For students currently in grades 3-5, an application must be completed by the parent/guardian. Once the application is received, the student's achievement scores are screened to determine eligibility for further testing; achievement scores should fall in the range of 80 percentile and above. Students identified for further testing through the screening process are administered the Cognitive Abilities Test.

No application is required for students currently in grade 2. All second-grade students will be screened using district achievement assessments. Students with scores at 80 percentile or above will be invited to take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT).

Once the assessment process is completed, the comprehensive collection of data will be evaluated by the Multidisciplinary Selection Committee to determine placement in the QUEST Program.

Characteristics

Students who are highly capable may possess, but are not limited to, these learning characteristics:

- Capacity to learn with unusual depth of understanding, to retain what has been learned, and to transfer learning to new situations;
- Capacity and willingness to deal with increasing levels of abstraction and complexity earlier than their chronological peers;
- Creative ability to make unusual connections among ideas and concepts;
- Ability to learn quickly in their area(s) of intellectual strength; and
- Capacity for intense concentration and/or focus.

Parents, teachers, staff, students, or members of the community may refer a student. Forms are available on the district website.

Puyallup School District recognizes that highly capable learners come from diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. We are committed to nurturing the abilities of all students. The District provides programs for rigorous, student-centered learning that affirms diversity and promotes growth for highly capable students.

Timeline

Grades 3-5

December 17: Application Deadline
January 5-21: CogAT Testing Window

Grade 2

February: Eligible 2nd grade students invited to take the CogAT

Mid-March: Selection Committee

Late March: Placement letters and test results mailed

For more information:

Additional information is found on the district website: <https://www.puyallup.k12.wa.us/>
> Departments/Programs > Highly Capable Programs
Phone: 253-841-8646 or 253-841-8751

