

# Discovery

## Lee County School District Intellectually Gifted Program



**It's not how we are alike that makes us special,  
it is how we are different.**

*Lee County Schools  
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## **Lee County School District** **Intellectually Gifted Education Philosophy Statement**

The philosophy of the Lee County School District Intellectually Gifted program is to enrich individuals who demonstrate intellectual giftedness. The program is designed to prepare these students to be motivated, critical thinkers, problem solvers, life long learners, respectful of individual uniqueness and worth, technologically knowledgeable, and prepared to meet the challenges of society through innovative, comprehensive learning experiences inclusive of the unique resources of the community.

### **District Program Objectives**

- The district will provide an equitable identification process for gifted which is inclusive and meets the requirements as outlined in the state regulations.
- The district will provide a diverse curriculum that addresses the needs of the gifted learner.
- The district will provide an on-going evaluation of student's progress and a comprehensive annual assessment of the district gifted program.
- The district will provide specialized training for gifted teachers and other personnel involved in the gifted education program.

### **Student Objectives**

- Students will demonstrate growth, according to their individual strengths and weaknesses.
- Students will demonstrate a positive attitude about school, learning and their own academic abilities.

# **Lee County Schools Intellectually Gifted Program**

## **Questions and Answers**

### **1. What is DISCOVERY?**

DISCOVERY class is an enrichment program for intellectually gifted students in grades 2-8.

### **2. What is the referral identification process?**

A student may be referred by a teacher, administrator, counselor, parent, peer, self, or any other person having reason to believe that the student may be intellectually gifted. If the student satisfactorily completes the screening process, parent permission will be obtained and an individual intelligence test will be administered. Students scoring at or above the 91<sup>st</sup> percentile on the intelligence test will be eligible for DISCOVERY.

### **3. How does DISCOVERY differ from the "regular" classroom?**

Because of the abilities of gifted students, we pursue activities that go beyond the normal classroom activity by offering the students a greater latitude of inquiry. The student's intellect is challenged by providing them with a diversity of learning experiences, including instructional methods, materials, and activities.

### **4. What are the elements of the curriculum?**

DISCOVERY Class focuses on developing skills in the following areas: Thinking Skills, Creativity, Information Literacy, Success Skills, Affective Skills, and Communication Skills.

**5. In what ways are the goals of DISCOVERY met?**

Speakers	Independent Studies	Mini-Units
Field Trips	Small Group Projects	Simulations
Team Building	Discussions	Puzzles/Brain Teasers

STEM Projects - Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

STEAM Projects - Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math

**6. How are students scheduled for DISCOVERY?**

DISCOVERY students are scheduled to be in class for a minimum of 240 minutes per week as required by the State Department of Education. The schedule will vary depending on the school and the grade level of the student.

**7. Are grades given in DISCOVERY?**

Discovery students in grades 2-8 will be evaluated according to the requirements as determined by the principal.

**8. What is the procedure for remaining in the program?**

Once students are ruled eligible for DISCOVERY, they do not have to be re-tested. However, each student is reassessed at the end of each school year. This simply means that the student's work and attitude are scrutinized, and a decision is made regarding the appropriateness of placement in the program for the coming school year. If a student is not recommended for continued placement in the program, the parent does have the right to appeal this decision. The final decision will be determined by the Lee County Schools Local Survey Committee.