



San Tan Charter School Gifted Program Mission Statement

The Governing Board and Staff Members of San Tan Charter School are committed to educational excellence for gifted students provided in self-contained classrooms.

Self-Contained Gifted Program

The Self-Contained Gifted Program is a full-day 1st – 6th grade program designed for qualifying students who need the support and challenge that a peer group of students with similar academic interests and abilities provides. The goal of this program is to provide students who have advanced intellectual, academic, and/or creative thinking skills the opportunity to dynamically interact with teachers who specialize in gifted education as well as peers of similar aptitude within a rigorous, interdisciplinary learning environment in order to reach their highest levels of learning and accomplishment. Students that are identified as gifted in kindergarten receive individualized instruction in the advanced kindergarten class, and gifted middle school students are placed in appropriate content classes according to their ability while having a choice of electives classes.

Classroom instruction expands and accelerates the traditional curriculum to accommodate the unique needs and interests of the students. Differentiation in environment, instructional methods, course content, process, and product provides appropriate educational experiences for these students. Students are provided with a rigorous interdisciplinary core curriculum of language arts, social studies, science, and math. Standard curriculum is compacted for students who demonstrate mastery and proficiency in basic skills. Students also have an opportunity to explore areas of interest in depth through independent research.

Educational interventions and appropriate modifications are provided in the learning environment through the use of Individualized Learning Plans (ILP). ILPs are used to create learning groups and tailor instruction within the classroom. The learning environment includes flexible grouping, homogenous grouping, and/or heterogeneous grouping, and differentiation. Students learn through inquiry, active exploration, creating projects that demonstrate learning, and self-evaluation. Teacher evaluation is based on criteria established through rubrics, standards of excellence, and program goals.

San Tan Charter School Gifted Testing Process

The Governing Board of San Tan Charter School has adopted a research-based approach to screening and identifying gifted learners (Davidson Institute) (ARS 15-779.02). Prior to being given tests to