



## The GT Academy and the IBMYP

An additional facet to the uniqueness of the IB GT Academy is its grounding within the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IBMYP). Through this framework students are both challenged and supported to excel not only in their studies, but in their personal development. Most importantly, while emphasizing rigorous academic and personal standards, our teachers recognize the asymmetrical-development common among Gifted and Talented Students.

As educators, we recognize the importance of inquiry as the primary method of exploring curriculum. In the GT Academy, teachers create inquiry by connecting student interest with a higher purpose of the practical details of learning. By suppling context behind each unit of study, our students are able to derive a deeper understanding of their education and recognize conceptual connections between their personal interests and subject studies. Academy students at North Middle School can expect an enriching experience, emphasizing reflection, interdisciplinary approaches to learning, rigorous standards, and social emotional development through an intentional growth mind set.

As a part of the IB worldwide community, we encourage students to celebrate our common humanity and share the belief that education can help build a better world.

Adam Millman  
IB MYP Coordinator  
North Middle School



*NMS students enjoy a wide variety of before and after school activities and intramurals in addition to standard sports.*

### D11 MS Sports

*Fall:* Girls' Track, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> gr. Football\*, Cross Country, Wrestling

*Winter:* Basketball for Girls & Boys

*Spring:* Boys' Track, Volleyball, Soccer\*

\*in partnership with CS Parks & Rec

### Clubs and activities

Jazz Band

Leadership Club

National Junior Honor Society

Manga Club

Animé Club

I Got It! (*Euro games & climbing*)

Chess Club

Lego Club

Pretty Brainy Girls' STEM Club

Battle of the Books

Public Achievement Club

International Book Club

*and many more!*

### Intramurals

Girls' Softball

Intramural Volleyball

Dodgeball

Golf

Wrestling

## **INTRODUCING the**

**North IB GT  
2018-2019  
Academy**

*Excellence in education  
across the years.*

**North  
Middle  
School**



**1924  
to  
2018  
and counting!**

North Middle School  
612 E. Yampa St.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Colorado Springs School District 11

## A note from our Principal

I am pleased to share with you an exciting opportunity regarding our Gifted and Talented (GT) program at North Middle School for the 2018-2019 school year.

The North MS staff and I share a passion for our GT population and we understand that enrichment and individualized opportunities for this particular group of students sometimes take a back seat and resources get directed towards other needs. In order to address this issue we have focused our 2018-2019 school year planning on the specific needs of our GT kids. Along with instituting the Flight and Space curriculum in the daily GT classes, an important part of our planning involves something we call the **IB GT Academy**.

The **IB GT Academy (IBGTA)** will begin with incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders, providing an all-inclusive educational opportunity to a maximum of 30 students (*extending to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in each subsequent year*). The **IBGTA** will specifically support the three central components for GT students - social-emotional, academic, and individual passions. These students will follow a schedule of advanced honors classes-*including applied academics, i.e. art, video, music and world language – each day*. All classes, of course, will adhere to the IB philosophy of project-based, internationally minded instruction.

While designed with GT students in mind, we will also include students not officially identified as Gifted and Talented, but who would benefit from the support and challenges of IBGA. The selection process will include, but not be limited to GT level test scores, references from academic professionals and personal interactions with the North staff. It is necessary to determine the student's ability to not only complete the work within the classroom environment, but to wholly and intentionally engage in the challenge and excitement of the curriculum.



## IB GT Academy Core Academic Classes

*All Core classes are full year (4 quarters)*

GT Math

GT Science

GT Language and Literature  
*Language arts*

GT Individuals and Societies *Geography/history*

GT Discovery

## Applied Academic Options

Jazz Band

*Meets before school (4 quarters)*

Band, Choir, Orchestra

*May only choose one music class (4 quarters)*

Physical Education

*2 quarter class, not necessarily sequential*

Advanced Art

**GT Academy class (1 quarter)**

Advanced Video Production

**GT Academy class (1 quarter)**

World Language

*6<sup>th</sup> graders take ONE quarter of each before selecting their language of choice:  
French, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish*

*We also offer*

Spanish for Spanish Speakers

GT Academy students will travel together through the school day as a separate section for their core classes, traveling together.

Performance music classes and PE will be integrated with the general student population, but beginning with this year's 6<sup>th</sup> graders North will be phasing in GT level Academic Electives. GT Academy 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have their own sections of Video Production, a design based class and Visual arts.

## GT VIDEO PRODUCTION

Video Production classes teach the basics of the Design Cycle while providing an understanding of the video production process. Students will work in a variety of production roles while producing content for types of video such as stop-motion animation, short movies and news productions.



## GT VISUAL ART

Visual Arts classes introduce basic skills concurrently with contextual scaffolding, encouraging students to nurture their sense of curiosity and explore ways to express themselves. Students plan, execute and modify their works through a series of small units in order to prepare larger projects. Each project concludes with a post-project reflection.

