

E-Squared

Seeking Exponential Growth through Extension and
Enrichment



Meet the Teachers:

Kaylee Pelkey
and Maggie Reed



Duluth Public Schools has two E-Squared teachers, Kaylee Pelkey and Maggie Reed. We are responsible for creating curriculum content (both in person and digitally), identifying students, scheduling intervention sessions, and providing in person & digital intervention services for all nine elementary schools. In addition, we are responsible for communicating with teachers and families (roughly 300+ students per year).

What is E-Squared?

- ❖ E-Squared stands for Extension and Enrichment. E-Squared is our district's gifted and talented program designed to provide support to our high achieving students.
- ❖ E-Squared activities are designed to provide opportunities for collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, and curiosity.
- ❖ E-Squared is offered to qualifying students in 3rd-5th grade.

Gifted and Talented Identification at ISD 709

E-SQUARED IDENTIFICATION

STEP 1: TEST

Students across the district take the FAST (aReading and aMath) test three times (fall, winter, spring) per school year. These tests represent the district's universal achievement screener and are E-Squared's primary identification qualifier.

STEP 2: IDENTIFY

Teachers (3rd-5th grade) will work in grade level teams, using the district's universal achievement screener (FAST) to identify roughly the highest 10% of a grade level, within a school, in math and also identify the top 10% in ELA.

STEP 3: QUALIFY

Teacher teams look carefully at longitudinal data and other measures to include students who may not have demonstrated their ability on the universal screener. Alternative pathways to service include: student portfolios that demonstrate level 4 work on common assessments and/or longitudinal data that points to a test score being unusually low relative to typical results.

STEP 4: SERVICES

Students are automatically enrolled unless families opt out of services. Students participate in small group extension and enrichment activities in either or both units of E-Squared. The amount of time offered fluctuates, but is typically 10 hours per unit. These small group interventions happen during a student's regular WIN time. An additional digital component is being developed with our Blended Learning Model.

What does E-Squared services look like?

In Person Intervention Services:

- ❖ In order to equitably divide our time between all nine elementary schools, E-Squared follows the 8 day specialist rotation schedule. Each site has an in person intervention, two consecutive days per the 8 day rotation.
- ❖ E-Squared meets during each elementary school's grade level WIN time.
- ❖ E-Squared offers a Reading unit and a Math unit. All activities are aligned to extend upon the MN state standards.

Digital Content: (New this year!)

- ❖ E-Squared teachers have created 13 weeks of digital content that is aligned to the district's general pacing guide and MN state standards, to be used as a tool for classroom teachers to provide additional academic extension and enrichment opportunities. By offering digital content to students, we can increase the amount of services gifted and talented students have access to.
- ❖ These activities can be accessed within general classroom setting, ideally during station rotations.
- ❖ The E-Squared teachers post and monitor this digital content.
- ❖ Digital E-Squared content is building upon the district's goal of implementing blended learning.