

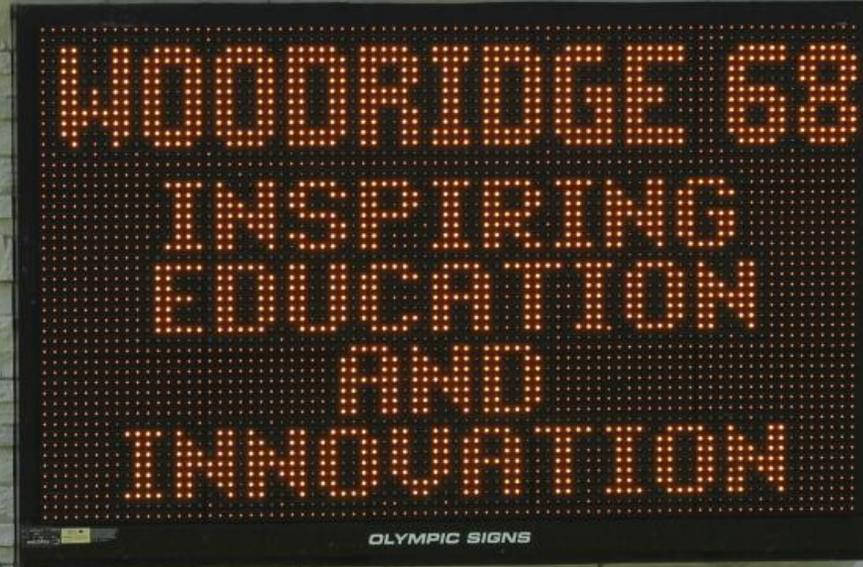


WOODRIDGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68



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SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

7925



Gifted Science / Social Studies Discussion

BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENTATION | FEBRUARY 23, 2026

Today's Targets

1. Provide history of gifted services in Woodridge 68
2. Review high school programming options in District 99
3. Share recommendations for future gifted programming



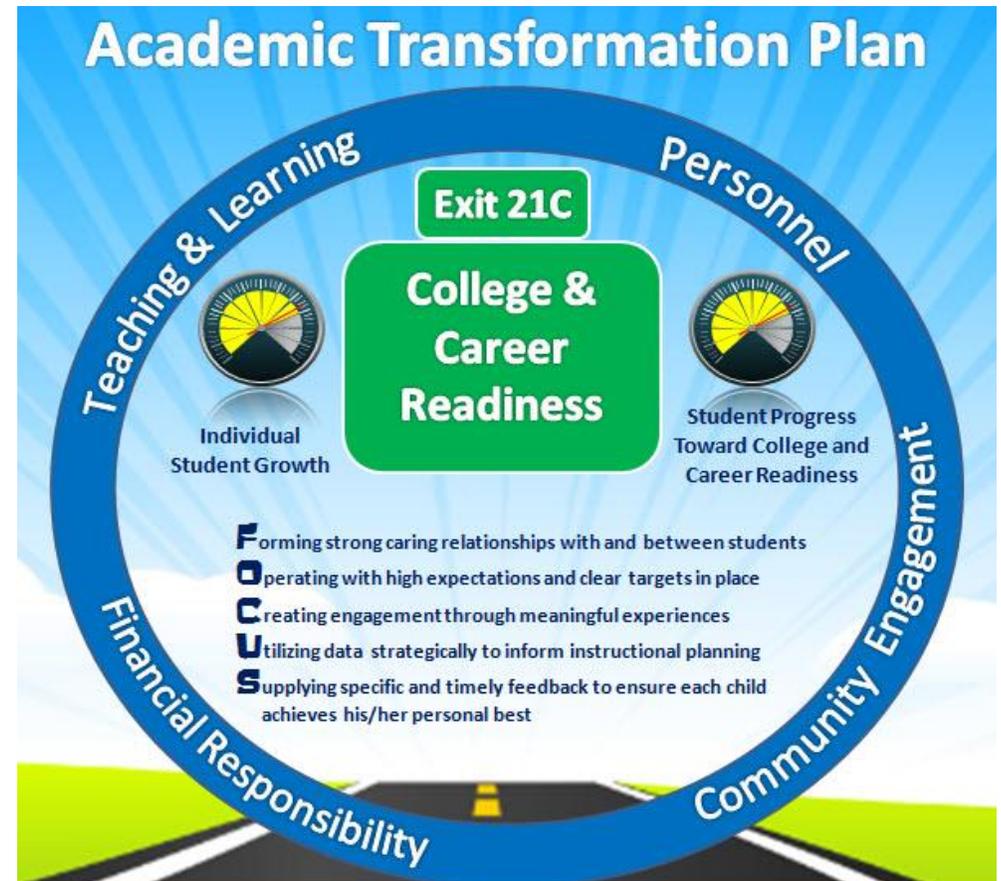


Our Mission & Vision

INSPIRING EDUCATION AND INNOVATION

Policy 6310

In partnership with family and community, Woodridge School District 68 will provide a comprehensive educational foundation for all children in a safe, caring environment, preparing them to be productive, responsible, and successful members of society.





Updates & Opportunities



Gifted Services

PROGRAM HISTORY

Pre-2011

- Elementary
 - Enrichment program for top 25-30%
- Junior high
 - Gifted program based on OLSAT score
 - Gifted “team” for top 30 students
 - Received ELA, math, social studies, and science

Winter of 2011

Commenced a Gifted Review Committee consisting of parents, staff and community members and led by national expert, Dr. Carolyn Callahan.

- Created a [definition of Gifted Services](#)
- Elementary impact
 - Transitioned from an enrichment program to a true gifted program
- Junior high impact
 - Moved from Academic Teams at Jefferson to departments, which allowed us the opportunity to identify by subject



Gifted Services

PROGRAM HISTORY (cont'd)

Beginning in 2012

- Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) replaced OLSAT
- Elementary
 - Gifted identification for top 8-10 %
- Junior high
 - identification for top 8-10 %
 - Received ELA, Social Studies, and Science
 - Separate accelerated math levels

In 2018

- Transitioned from automatic “Gifted ELA = Gifted Science” to separate identification.
 - Student science interest survey implemented



Gifted Services

PROGRAM HISTORY (cont'd)

In 2022

- Gifted Audit focused on classroom instruction
 - Continued to adjust gifted science

In 2024

- Replaced CogAT identification tool with the Naglieri General Ability Test for more equitable identification
 - Continued to adjust gifted science entrance

In 2025

- Gifted audit focus on overidentification of students as well as enhanced methods for identifying students for gifted science at JJHS



High School Programming Options

SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

Social Studies

- Freshman year: No advanced options
- All students take Global Connections
- Implement self-selected honors programming begins sophomore year

Science

- Freshman year: Two advanced options
 - Honors Biology & Honors Earth and Space
- Self-selected honors programming





Future Opportunities

OPTIONS FOR WOODRIDGE 68

Option 1: Maintain ELA/SS Gifted	
Social Studies	Utilize existing criteria and place students who identify for Gifted ELA in Gifted Social Studies
Science	Create an Honors Science program with self-selected entrance

Option 2: Full alignment to District 99	
Social Studies	Create an Honors Social Studies program with self-selected entrance
Science	Create an Honors Science program with self-selected entrance



Recap

1. Provided history of Gifted Services
2. Reviewed high school programming offerings
3. Shared recommendations on future gifted programming



Questions?

