

District 96 Advanced Learning Program Review Update



District 96 Board Committee of the Whole Meeting
March 5, 2025

K-8 Advanced Learning Program Review Committee



- Lauren Allen - Advanced Learning Teacher (AES/BPES)
- David Becker - Fifth-Grade Teacher (AES)
- Kim Eddy - Advanced Learning Teacher (BPES/CES)
- Deb Faletti - Advanced Learning Teacher (AES/HES)
- Mikaela Gennardo - Advanced Math/Science (HJHS)
- Laura Legare - Advanced and Core ELA (HJHS)
- Lena Mackley - Advanced and Core ELA (HJHS)
- Casimira Gorman - Principal Blythe Park Elementary School
- Chris Harvalis - Assistant Principal Hauser Junior High School
- Angela Dolezal - Director of Teaching and Learning

Advanced Learning Program Review

Purpose



Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the district's Advanced Learning/Enrichment Programming for students in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

- ❑ Focus on:
 - ❑ Ensuring the program effectively meets the academic and social-emotional needs of our advanced learners
 - ❑ Ensuring best practices for identification and qualification
 - ❑ Identifying areas for continuous improvement

Advanced Learning Program Review Goals



- ❑ We are committed to providing all students with challenging and enriching educational experiences that foster their intellectual growth and prepare them for future success
- ❑ Utilize Recommendations to:
 - ❑ **Ensure Student Needs are Met** - Verify that the program effectively meets the needs of our advanced learners, providing them with appropriate challenges and supports
 - ❑ **Optimize Identification and Qualification** - Refine our identification and qualification processes, to ensure equitable access and accurate placement of students in the program
 - ❑ **Maintain Program Alignment** - Ensure the program aligns with best practices and reflects the district's commitment to Continuous Improvement and Excellence

Advanced Learning Program Review Process



Working with consultants from the Northwest Center for Talent Development, the committee will engage in a collaborative and data-driven process, including:

- ❑ **Data Analysis** - Reviewing student achievement data, program participation data, and feedback from students, staff, and families.
- ❑ **Best Practice Research** - Examine current research and best practices in advanced learning
- ❑ **Program Evaluation** - Evaluate the program's curriculum, instructional strategies, and supports
- ❑ **Stakeholder Input** - Gathering feedback through surveys and focus groups with students, staff, and families
- ❑ **Collaborative Decision Making** - Engaging in open and transparent discussions to review recommendations and make informed decisions regarding the future of the program, including strategies for implementation and future evaluation

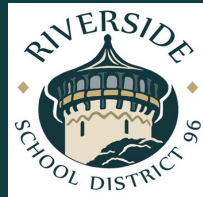
Advanced Learning Program Review October to Present



- ❑ October 24, 2024 - Review Team Kick-Off Meeting
- ❑ November 7, 2024 - Survey Preview Meeting
- ❑ January 14, 2025 - Pre-Focus Group Meeting
- ❑ Week of January 20, 2025 - Six Parent Focus Groups
- ❑ Week of January 27, 2025 - Student Focus Groups/Classroom Observations
- ❑ Week of February 3, 2025 - Staff Focus Groups
- ❑ February 12, 2025 - Administrative Focus Group
- ❑ February 14, 2025 - Focus Group Specifically for Advanced Learning Teachers
- ❑ Ongoing - Data and Communication Review

Advanced Learning Program Review

Next Steps



- ❑ Consultants from the Northwestern Center for Talent Development are performing the data analysis (February/early March)
- ❑ Consultants from Northwestern Center for Talent Development will formulate actionable recommendations for program improvement, including strategies for implementation and evaluation (February/early March)
- ❑ Consultants will bring recommendations to the review committee (late March/early April)
- ❑ The committee analyzes recommendations for program improvements and makes informed decisions on which recommendations to implement and when to implement them (April/May)
- ❑ Communication to Stakeholders, including the Board of Education, about the plan for recommendations which the committee plans to implement. (May or June)



Thank you.
Questions?