

Events and Opportunities

The following events are sponsored by GATE:

- Academic Pentathlon (USAD)
- Think Tank
- Poetry Slams (Fall and Spring)
- Academic Quiz Bowls
- Book Blasters
- Scholars Program

Students have additional opportunities to be challenged through clubs, events, competitions, and performances offered at Davis Middle School. These opportunities include:

- National Junior Honor Society
- Math Team
- Music and Drama Performances
- Robotics
- Science Club
- Science and Engineering Fairs
- Speech and Debate
- Spelling Bee

How to Get Involved

Students are notified of upcoming opportunities through daily announcements, the Davis websites, the monthly newsletter, and classroom teachers. Involvement in many of the clubs, competitions, and other activities may require time out of class and/or after-school meetings.



AIM HIGH

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

USE YOUR BRAIN

NEVER QUIT

BE READY TO GO

EXPECT TO WIN

Contact Information

Omaha Public Schools
Office of Gifted and Talented Education
(402) 557- 2463
(531) 299 - 9494

Mrs. Allison Temple
Gifted and Talented Facilitator
(402) 561- 6130 EXT.: 896-1090
allison.temple@ops.org

8050 North 129th Avenue ♦ Omaha,
Nebraska ♦ 68142
402-561-6130
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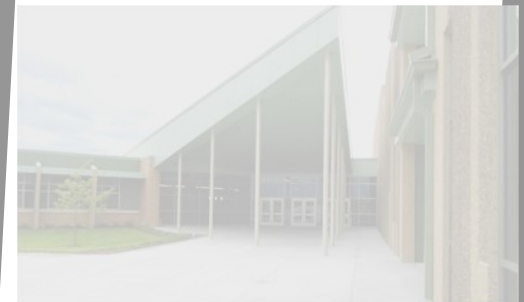
Programming supported by the Omaha Public
Schools Office of Gifted and Talented Education

ALFONZA W. DAVIS
AVIATORS
MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Where a student's future
takes off!*



**Programs and
Opportunities for
Gifted and Talented
Students**



Mr. Dan Bartels, Principal
Davis Middle School

Gifted and Talented Education Mission

Gifted and Talented Education in the Omaha Public Schools strives to identify potentially gifted and exceptionally talented students across the district, nurture their social/emotional development and enhance their curriculum experiences so that these unique individuals may reach their fullest potential.

Curriculum

Gifted and Talented Education in the Omaha Public Schools is committed to developing students through a curriculum framework focused on:

- Problem Solving,
- Critical Thinking,
- Creative Thinking,
- Inquiry,
- Cultural Proficiency,
- Meta-Cognition (Self-Reflection), and
- Affective Skills (Positive and healthy habits for working independently and with others).



Honors Courses

Classroom teachers meet the needs of high ability learners on a daily basis through classroom differentiation. Additionally, all OPS middle schools offer honors courses in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. These courses enhance and enrich learning experiences for students by differentiating through **PACE** (accelerating the instructional practices), **DEPTH** (deepening the discipline knowledge and practice) and **COMPLEXITY** (using sophisticated levels of advanced thinking).

All OPS middle schools offer:

- Honors Language Arts 7
- Honors Language Arts 8
- Honors Physical Science (Grade 8)
- Honors Pre-Algebra 1–2
- Honors Algebra 1–2
- Honors Geometry 1–2

Placement in honors and advanced courses is determined by standardized assessments, classroom performance, and other established criteria.

In some cases, students may require academic course offerings not available at the middle school. Students and families may work with the school's GATE Facilitator to complete an acceleration agreement that may involve such options as distance learning or high school placement. Grade-level acceleration or grade-skipping can also be considered through a process involving an Iowa Acceleration Scale (IAS).

Identification

The Nebraska Department of Education, Rule 3, requires schools to develop a system to identify learners with high ability. Starting with the 2016-2017 school year, high ability learners will be identified for GATE services by meeting indicators for at three of the four criteria:

- **COGNITIVE**—Top 5% at the school or national level on an *intelligence/cognitive* assessment
- **ACHIEVEMENT**—Tops 5% at the school or national level on a standardized *grade-level achievement* assessment
- **MOTIVATION/PERFORMANCE**—"A" or Advanced (ADV) in 60% or more courses on the most recent semester grade report (equivalent to a 3.5 un-weighted GPA) OR qualifying staff referral/recommendation and/or participation
- **CREATIVITY/LEADERSHIP**—Qualifying staff referral/recommendation and/or participation

While some students may not meet the criteria for identification, Omaha Public Schools believes students throughout the district have talent and potential. A student may still be involved in many of the GATE and school sponsored events and competitions. This involvement may serve as an indicator for the Motivation/Performance or Creativity/Leadership criteria towards permanent identification.

