

# Advanced Academic Programs (AAP)

Secondary Opportunities for FCPS Students

ELEMENTARY → MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL



# Fairfax County Schools (FCPS) Beliefs

- All students deserve an excellent education.
- Students learn best when educators, parents, and students work together.
- High expectations lead to high performance.
- All students need opportunities to use strengths and pursue interests.

# Virginia Department of Education ‘Gifted’ Definition

“Gifted students means those students...  
who demonstrate high levels of accomplishment or  
who show the potential for higher levels of accomplishment  
when compared to others of the same age, experience, or  
environment.”

# Virginia Department of Education Gifted Regulation

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All Virginia school divisions must:

- identify gifted students, and
- provide instructional services to meet their needs.



## FCPS VA Local Plan for the Gifted

Information related to FCPS Advanced Academic Services

### FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted 2016-2021

Each school division in Virginia develops a comprehensive plan for the education of the gifted. The FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted provides specific explanations of FCPS' implementation of Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students in Virginia.

# Two **Goals** of the Advanced Academic Programs

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FCPS AAP strives to develop the talents of all students and provide challenge through:

- **Talent development**
- **Differentiation** to meet the needs of **advanced learners**.

## Talent Development

What does Talent Development look like in Fairfax County Public Schools?

- Instructional opportunities to use AAP curriculum and strategies.
- Working with students to identify and explore areas of interest.
- Attention to underrepresented groups through the Young Scholars Model.

## **Differentiation to Meet the Needs of Advanced Learners**

### What does Differentiating for Advanced Learners mean in Fairfax County Public Schools?

- Meeting students' needs to go beyond grade level standards by name and need.
- Ensuring access to differentiated curriculum and environment including increased depth and complexity, different pacing, and less scaffolding.
- Ensuring time to work with similar academic peer group to ensure peer-to-peer feedback to promote growth.
- Academic advising and complementary supports for success through implementation of the Young Scholars model.



# AAP Continuum of Services

AAP offers a continuum of services to challenge and engage all students K-12. Our goals are:

- Provide deeper learning and talent development opportunities to all students
- Identify and build upon student strengths and abilities
- Provide multiple entry points to meet diverse student needs through the continuum of services

We believe talent can be nurtured and developed in all students. AAP services for a student may change over time.

## Advanced Academic Programs Overview

### Young Scholars Model - All K-12 Students

Elementary School: K-6	Middle School	High School
Access to Rigor (Level I)	IB Middle Years Program – Grades 6 -10 (selected schools)	
Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation (Level II)	Honors Courses in areas of Academic Strength/Interest Grades 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honors Courses</li> <li>• Advanced Placement (AP)</li> <li>• International Baccalaureate (IB)</li> <li>• Dual Enrollment Courses</li> <li>• Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology</li> </ul>
Part-Time Services (Level III) Grades 3-6		
Full-Time Services - Grades 3-8 (Level IV)		

*Adapted from the Integrated Continuum of Special Services by Sally Reis and Levels of Service by Donald Treffinger.*

## **Advanced Academic Programs**

Grades K-12

### **Young Scholars Model**

The FCPS **Young Scholars Model** seeks to identify and affirm, from an early age, students with high academic potential from groups historically underrepresented in advanced academic programming.

The goal of the model is to eliminate barriers for Young Scholars' access to and success in advanced academic opportunities in elementary, middle, and high school.

## SECONDARY

Grades 7-12

### Young Scholars Model



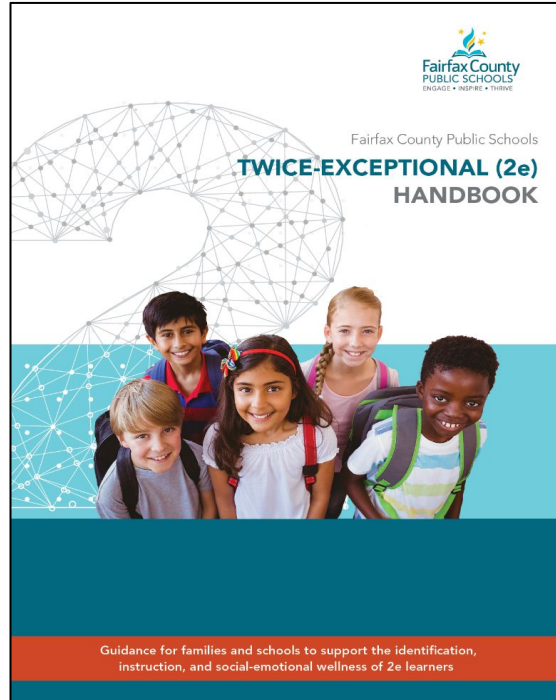
In the Young Scholars Model in Secondary Schools, school administrators, teachers, counselors, and other school staff work together to implement a schoolwide system of support that provides 'wrap around' services in the following areas: relationships, academics, transitions, and enrichment.

Goals include:

- Relationships
- Academic Habits and Skills
- Academic Course Advisory
- Transition Advisory between ES - MS - HS - Beyond
- Enrichment Opportunities

## Advanced Academic Programs

## Twice-Exceptional (2e) Students



Twice-exceptional (2e) students have exceptional abilities and exceptional learning challenges.

FCPS 2e Handbook:  
Go to [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)  
and search **2e**

# Advanced Academic Programs

## LEVELS OF SERVICE

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

## Advanced Academic Programs Overview

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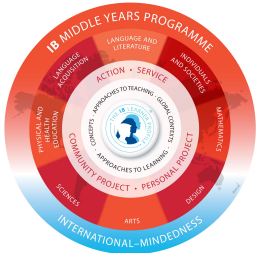
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## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6-8 (in selected schools)

## International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP)



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (MYP) is available in some FCPS middle schools.

The program encourages students to understand the connections between content and the real world through critical and reflective thinking.

In schools that have IB MYP, all students participate.



## Advanced Academic Programs Overview

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## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Grades 7-8

**Honors Courses  
in areas of  
academic strength  
or interest**

Honors classes provide opportunities for students who want to be challenged in one or more subjects:

- English
- Science
- Social Studies
- Mathematics

Students may choose to enroll in 1, 2, 3, or 4 Honors classes.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

### Acceleration in Mathematics Courses in Middle School

Acceleration in mathematics content:

- Any student in 7<sup>th</sup> grade may select Math 7 Honors. This course is one year above grade level. Students will learn 8<sup>th</sup> grade content.
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who want to take **Algebra I Honors** must meet criteria set by the FCPS math office.
- Algebra I courses are open to all 8<sup>th</sup> graders

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## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

### Full-Time services Level IV

Some advanced learners need a full-time advanced academic program, including differentiated instruction in all 4 content areas and access to a peer group with similar academic needs.

Students eligible for full-time AAP services receive:

- Advanced Language Arts, science, and social studies curriculum, and
- Math curriculum at least one year above grade level.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

**Full-Time services**

**Level IV**

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child to be screened for full-time AAP services.

- **Fall Screening** (only available to students who are new to FCPS since January) - referral and optional materials are due by **October 15**.
- **Spring Screening** - referral and optional materials are due by **December 15**.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified according to the published **Testing and Identification Timeline**.

Eligible students may attend their AAP center or stay at their local middle school.

Level IV services continue through Grade 8. Students do not need to be evaluated each year.

# Advanced Academic Programs

## LEVELS OF SERVICE

### HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12

## Advanced Academic Programs Overview

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## HIGH SCHOOL

### Advanced Academic Programs

In high school, students may select advanced courses to meet their advanced academic needs. Advanced academic opportunities include:

- Honors courses
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- International Baccalaureate (IB) courses
- Dual Enrollment (DE) courses

There is a separate application process for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

## HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12

### Honors Courses

Honors classes provide opportunities for students who want to be challenged in one or more subjects:

- English
- Science
- Social Studies
- Mathematics

Students may choose to enroll in 1, 2, 3, or 4 Honors classes.

## HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 10-12 (in  
selected schools)

### Advanced Placement



The Advanced Placement (AP) program provides students with opportunities to take college-level courses in high school.

AP course curricula are designed by The College Board, in conjunction with university and high school faculty.

AP courses include an externally administered AP exam that may entitle a student to college credit. Some AP courses, such as AP Computer Science principles, AP Seminar and AP research, include performance-based assessments.

## HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-10 (in selected schools)

## International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (MYP) is available in some FCPS high schools.

The program encourages students to understand the connections between content and the real world through critical and reflective thinking.

In schools that have IB MYP, all students participate.

## HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 11-12 (in selected schools)

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Program



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program (DP) is available in some FCPS high schools.

The program focuses on developing students with a wide breadth and depth of knowledge in a variety of content areas. It focuses on the physical, intellectual, ethical, and emotional health of students.

In schools that have IB DP, students can take one or more courses or they can pursue the full IB diploma.

**HIGH SCHOOL**  
Grades 11-12 (in  
selected schools)

## International Baccalaureate Career-related Program



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Career-related Program (CP) is available in some FCPS high schools.

The IB CP provides an opportunity for students to design a rigorous course of study and prioritize their interests. Students can pursue academics and gain professional skills.

To earn the IB Career-related Certificate, students will complete IB DP courses, a career-related study, and the four components of the IB CP core.

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

Grades 11-12 (in  
selected schools)

### **Dual Enrollment Courses**

Dual enrollment courses are taught at the high school by an FCPS teacher. College credit is offered through agreements with a college or university.

Students must meet the requirements set by the college or university to enroll in the course. They will work with their high school to register for the course.

Each high school determines if they will offer dual enrollment courses based on their needs.

# Who to Contact

## Elementary School:

- Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART)

## Middle School:

- Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART)
- Director of Student Services
- School Counselor

## High School:

- Director of Student Services
- School Counselor

## AAP Office:

- 571-423-4740
- [AAP@fcps.edu](mailto:AAP@fcps.edu)



# For more information: [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)

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