



High Five-May

Supporting High Ability Students through our Five Goals

It's Been a Mayyyyyyy

I hope that you are making it through May and are not too exhausted to enjoy it with the kids and the nice weather! I wanted you to know that I found out that our HA line item with the Senate Subcommittee passed and was fully funded! We have not received the official email, but we heard from a reliable source that it is coming soon.

This newsletter is short and sweet, because we understand how busy it is! Check out PD opportunities for the Summer and next school year. There is a summer camp opportunity for students. I have included the HA survey below to tell me what you need to support your HA students. Have a great summer!

****Email Kim Jovic if you want to attend one of the PD Sessions below****

IMPORTANT DATES 📅

Perry Township HA Bootcamp: June 12th from 1-4 p.m., check TeachPoint. We will be at PTEC in room 210. Check out the Perry Township Summer PD catalog below.

2-Day Teacher Bootcamp with Kristie Speirs Neumeister from Ball State: In Person OR Virtual. In person dates are August 28 & September 8th at Conner Prairie. Check out the Flyer below for more information.

Indiana Association for the Gifted: December 15th and 16th at the JW Marriott



Aug. 28 & Sept. 8 2025: HA Flyer BootCamp.pdf

Download
2.1 MB



Summer Learning Catalog-HA.pdf

Download
2.8 MB

Student Summer Camp Opportunity



Summer Stem.pdf

Download
1.6 MB

Decatur Township is hosting a STEM camp open to students outside of the district as well. Details are below and the flyer is above if you want to send home with your students.

Dates: May 28th-June 12th, Monday-Friday

Times: 8:50 am-12 pm daily

Location: Decatur High Ability Academy, 5106 S. High School Road Indianapolis, IN 46221

Who: Open to all students in or out of Decatur Township, entering grades 3-6. **transportation available in-district only*

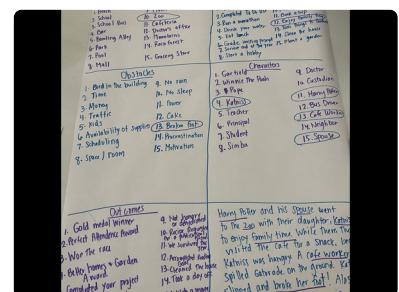
Cost: \$160, includes lunch

Click the form to register: [Registration Form](#)

For more information, call the Decatur High Ability Academy at 317-856-2109, or email Mrs. Julie Conrad: jconrad@decaturproud.org

How to enhance critical and creative thinking skills

We had a district team attend the Thinking Skills workshop with Kristie Speirs-Neumeister from Ball State University last week. We tried to think about how to incorporate some of these activities in with CKLA. I wanted to share one of the strategies that we covered and included below is a handout of all of the strategies for you. We thought Attribute Listing would fit in with writing narratives. It took us 45 minutes from start to finish, but we started from scratch. You could prep posters ahead of time, limit attributes from 12 to 5-7, or you could divide this up over 2 days (listing attributes one day, writing the story the next). You could use this in math with different numbers, operations,



products, techniques, expressions, and etc. Think about how you could use it in science and social studies, too.

1. Divide the paper into 6 boxes.
2. Number the boxes to 12, all but the last box.
3. Box one, give students 3-4 minutes to list 12 settings. Repeat for each box, you may need less time as they go along. The remaining categories are: Goals, Obstacles, Characters, and Outcomes.
4. Next, they circle the numbers that you tell them in the boxes that you tell them. Kristie told us to circle #10 in Settings, #12 in Goals, #13 in Obstacles, #4,11,13, & 15 in Characters, and #6 in Outcomes. Everyone was laughing at this point, because the combinations were funny.
5. Tell the students to write a story including all of the items that they just circled.



2025ThinkingSkillsHandout.pdf

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Noetic

Samantha Flecker at JG hosted another Noetic Competition this Spring with her math class. This time they practiced each week with past Noetic problems. These are found on our [HA Drive here](#). She shared that the Spring test was much more difficult than the Fall Test. Jonathan Stephens was the team winner and received national honorable mention. Tracy Chaihlung also earned national honorable mention. Several more students were only one question away from recognition. The students worked hard and were proud of their effort. Check out the photos below of the mathletes!



Immigration Story

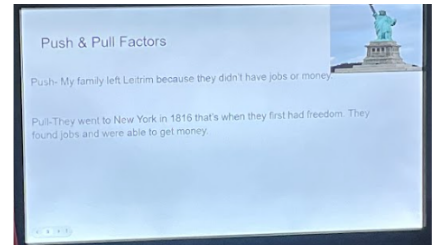
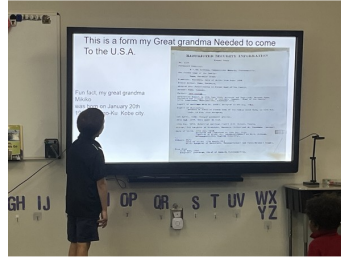
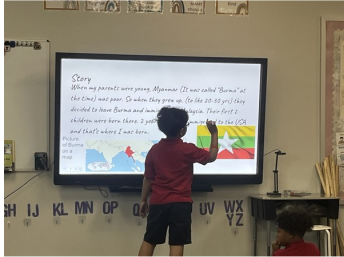
I was honored to attend presentations in Leslie Clark's second grade classroom. They shared their family's immigration story as they completed the unit in CKLA. The students talked about the push factors that their families experienced to push them to leave their home countries and pull factors that pulled their families to move to the United States. Some students spoke about their great great grandparents and some students had stories about their parents. The effort was evident in the research that was presented. They presented in front of their whole class and a few adults. We told them that was an amazing feat! Some of the stories brought tears to my eyes!



Amplify CKLA knowledge scrapbook

Explore resources for teachers from educators across the country who are bringing Amplify CKLA Knowledge Domains to life in their classrooms!

amplify.com



HA Licensure and Tuition Reimbursement

Did you know Indiana is home to three universities that have specialized programs to help you meet the needs of gifted students? As you work to provide the best possible learning experiences for these gifted learners, you may find that this kind of advanced training and education becomes more and more important. Whether you're an experienced educator seeking to deepen your expertise and add to your credentials or are new to the field of education, these educational pathways will help you support gifted learners.

Please let me know if you are interested in this opportunity. Right now I am in a Summer Class at BSU on Creativity and HA. I am looking forward to sharing information with you!



2024-08-13 PTS- Tuition Reimbursement Agreement.pdf

[Download](#)

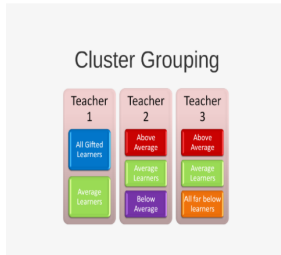
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Did you know...

Did you know that recent legislation requires schools to provide an advanced math option at 6-8th grade for students who score Above Proficiency on ILEARN Math the previous school year? There is a district committee meeting to discuss this and what that advanced math option that's will look like starting in the 25-26 school year. We are still conducting our HA screening like usual, but there will be more students identified who will be needing advanced instruction in addition to our math HA identified group.

HA Screening

Parent letters to those who qualified for the HA program in grades K, 2, and 5 were sent the week of May 12th. Cluster class lists for 25-26 were shared with buildings the week of May 12th. The students are also marked in Skyward as 1=General Intellectual (Language Arts and Math), 2=Math only, or 3=LA only. If you have any questions, let me know. Below is a graphic of what cluster class grouping means. I also included a slide on some different service options that are appropriate for HA learners.



Cluster Grouping

This is our model at elementary schools.

BETWEEN CLASS AND CLUSTER GROUPING	
Between Class Grouping	Cluster Grouping
Students move to higher grade levels as needed for accelerated instruction	HA students are grouped in one classroom for instruction
Students are grouped for certain subjects by ability rather than grade level	HA students have a separate, accelerated curriculum as a group within a regular classroom
Students change to higher grade levels for part of the day as needed	Reduces travel time to other classrooms which is helpful for students who have difficulty with transitions
Allows for consistent acceleration	Acceleration may not be consistent depending on the needs of the other students in the class
Allows for students to learn with their intellectual peers	Allows for students to learn with their intellectual peers
Allows social development with same age peers as well as needed deeper study into subject areas	Students are with their same age peers for the duration of the school day for social development

Between Class Groupings

Between Class Groupings mean that HA students are scheduled in all grade level classes, but switch for Tier 1 instruction.

MORE PROGRAMMING MODELS		
Pull-Out	Students leave the regular classroom to receive HA-specific curriculum and/or enrichment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Allows learning experiences with intellectual peersMay cause disruption during transitionsShould be led by HA-certified staff
Push-In	A HA teacher goes into the classroom to pull small groups of HA students to work with them using HA-specific curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Allows deeper learning experiencesCauses fewer disruptionsMay be difficult due to staffing
Honors	Honors courses offer accelerated curriculum and are generally offered in middle and high school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some districts allow students not identified as HA to enroll in these courses, making upward differentiation necessaryShould be taught by HA-certified staff
Dual Credit/AP/IB	These are advanced courses with the potential for students to receive college credit in high school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Care must be taken to avoid watering down content for students not identified as HA who enroll in the course

Other models

Pull-out models would be an intervention time. The intervention/enrichment time should be at least 30 minutes.



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Kim Jovic

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