



# Highly Capable Program Information

## Challenge Program (grades 2 - 5)

The goal of Highline's Highly Capable Program is to provide opportunities for students to achieve a greater depth of knowledge, and in some cases, to accelerate their learning, to reach their full potential as scholars. We strive to provide services that meet each student's needs and capabilities and help students cultivate habits of learning that will contribute to student success in school, college, career and life.

**Challenge classrooms** are places where highly capable students can grow as learners. The Challenge curriculum is the same as the rest of the students at their grade level with the opportunity for learning more about a topic. The class will, at times, move through the curriculum faster than other classes. Students will learn about taking care of their own needs and clearly letting others know their needs. Students will get to learn by working with by themselves, with others in pairs, and in small groups. They will also learn about becoming self-directed by organizing their time, their thinking, and their work.

### What support can you provide at home?

- ⇒ Provide opportunities to help your child find their interests and explore them.
- ⇒ Encourage growth in strengths and practice in areas of need.
- ⇒ Allow for struggle or failure on the path to understanding.
- ⇒ Discuss interesting topics with your child including asking and answering questions.

### In Challenge Classrooms:

*Teachers organize instruction in their classes to meet these program goals:*

#### **Lessons designed to fit needs highly capable students**

The learning standards are the same as general education classes but the ways students learn are different.

#### **Students are learning about new concepts and ideas**

Students will learn about their strengths and needs to help them focus on their academic needs

#### **Experience daily interaction with the students from around the school**

Challenge classes will work and learn together and will also be involved in learning with other student groups.

#### **Curriculum and instruction are focused on the needs of highly capable students**

Instruction will include learning in many ways that may stretch students to try new ways of working.

#### **Thinking, creativity, and problem solving are parts of learning**

Instruction includes students participating in learning about new concepts and presenting their thinking.

#### **All students work with one another**

Students will learn to work with others in pairs and in groups to learn together and to understand one another.

#### **There is a focus on the specific needs of highly capable children**

Highly capable students may have differing social and emotional needs.

#### **Instruction in the classes is paced to meet the needs of curious learners**

Learning is paced to insure that students learn and stay engaged with the content.

#### **Students work toward being independent learners**

Organizational skills and record keeping are built into the curriculum and daily work.