

# ACCESS



# ACADEMY



**ACCESS** is a rigorous academic program designed for highly gifted students in grades 1 through 8 and is open to all eligible students district wide. The program provides an advanced and enriched curriculum to create an age appropriate and challenging education for highly capable students.

### **ACCESS offers:**

- Education with intellectual peers
- Grouping by instructional level in math
- Flexible grouping within classrooms in other subject areas

ACCESS is located on two campuses; students in grades 1-5 are co-located on the campus of Vestal Elementary and students in grades 6-8 are co-located on the campus of Lane Middle School.

Elementary school students in grades 1-5 learn as a self-contained cohort and receive instruction from one primary homeroom teacher throughout the year, with the exception of math where they "walk to" their appropriate level. Enrichments include art, drama, Mandarin/Spanish, and library/tech.

Middle school students in grades 6-8 have six instructional periods daily, rotating among core classes that include English, math, social studies, science, and Spanish or Mandarin. They also receive physical education and health instruction in rotation with visual art.

### **ACCELERATED RATE AND LEVEL LEARNING**

ACCESS instructors teach to ability at an accelerated pace meant to engage and challenge gifted learners.

### **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS**

ACCESS provides a unique community for gifted learners whose needs for peer support and belonging are recognized by our excellent staff. From teachers to counselors to special education professionals, you will find a welcoming community at ACCESS.

### **MISSION**

ACCESS Academy's mission is to create and sustain a learning environment where gifted children thrive socially, emotionally, and academically and have the opportunity to reach their full potential.



**A**ccelerated curriculum

**C**ultivation & development of skills, capabilities and creativity

**C**haracter & social development

**E**xploration & personal discovery

**S**elf-directed, self-paced challenges toward excellence

**S**ervice to the community & society with tolerance & wisdom

## ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES FOR EXCELLENCE

ACCESS encourages the development of the whole student. The program supports intellectual as well as personal growth by providing high-level instruction in recognition of different learning styles and talents within a nurturing peer environment. ACCESS supports these learners by:

- Placing all students in the math class at their ability level, rather than their grade level. Students are assessed frequently and regrouped as needed.
- Grouping students for reading and writing instruction at their ability level.
- Providing accelerated, deeper and project-based learning opportunities.
- Offering extra support for time management, organization, and other executive functions as needed.

## ACCESS STUDENTS

Our students may be accelerated in multiple subject areas or may have widely differing abilities across subjects. ACCESS welcomes students from diverse backgrounds who live in neighborhoods all over the district.

## ADMISSION PROCESS

ACCESS admits students district wide who score in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile on nationally normed tests for aptitude or achievement in any one or more of the following areas: reading, math or intellectual ability. The admission process complies with all federal and state statutes and regulations. PPS provides free bus service to both ACCESS campuses. Application materials and additional information can be found at the ACCESS website:

[www.pps.net/access](http://www.pps.net/access)



ACCESS at Vestal (Grades 1-5) • 161 NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave Portland, OR 97220 • (503) 916-6483 • [www.pps.net/access](http://www.pps.net/access)  
ACCESS at Lane (Grades 6-8) • 7200 SE 60<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97206 • (503) 916-6482 • [www.pps.net/access](http://www.pps.net/access)