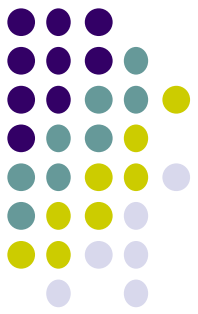


Vancouver Board of Education

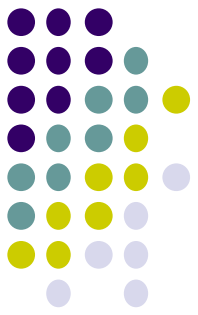


**PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**  
**For**  
**GIFTED/HIGHLY-ABLE STUDENTS**



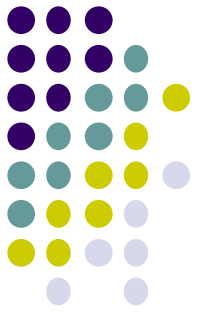
# Definition: Gifted

- Exceptionally high capability with respect to intellect, creativity, or skills in specific disciplines
- Often demonstrate outstanding abilities in more than one area
- May demonstrate extraordinary intensity of focus in area or talent or interest



# Definition: Gifted Learning Disabled

- Outstanding gift or talent and learning disability are both present, making achievement difficult (Porter)
- Discrepancy between cognitive ability and achievement based on some processing problem (Brody)
- May present with inconsistencies or discrepancies in academic performance

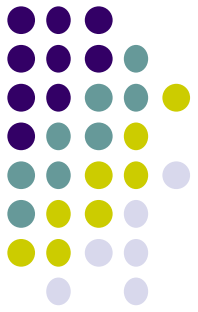


# Background

**In June of 1994, the Vancouver School Board directed gifted education services to:**

- Provide equity of access for students in all areas of the city
- Respond to the diversity of needs of this student population

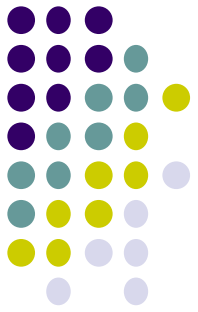




# Key Features of VSB Elementary Gifted/Enrichment Education

1. Education services for all students begins in the classroom and the school.
2. Gifted and highly able students need some learning experiences with similarly able students who share their interests and with a curriculum that is appropriately academically, intellectually, and creatively challenging.
3. Gifted and enrichment education services and programs complement and extend learning opportunities available in the classroom and school.
4. Programs and services maximize limited resources and still respond to the diversity of student's needs.
5. Dynamic relationships among school, area, and district programs and services optimize services for all Vancouver students.

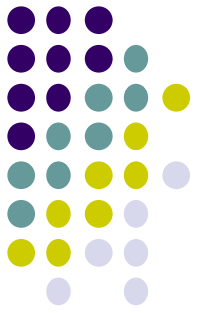
# School Level



Services begin at the school with:

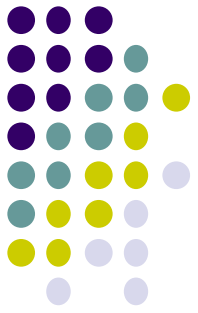
- ❖ Classroom Enrichment
- ❖ Personal Interest Research Projects
- ❖ Compacting/Acceleration
- ❖ Advanced Placement
- ❖ Cluster Grouping
- ❖ School Wide Enrichment

# Dynamic Service Model



All services begin with the local school working to meet the needs of the child, in conjunction with district programs and services.

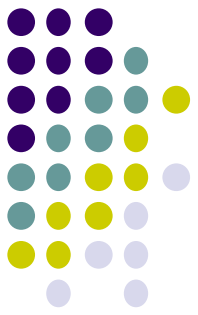
# District Programs and Services



- ❖ Challenge Centre
- ❖ Mentorship
- ❖ Twice Exceptional
- ❖ F.P.S.
- ❖ MACC Program
- ❖ Gifted Summer Program
- ❖ GOLD
- ❖ U.B.C. Transition





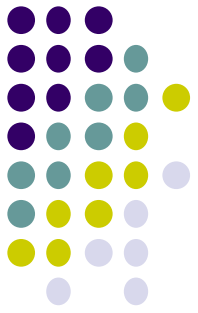


# Challenge Centre: Mission

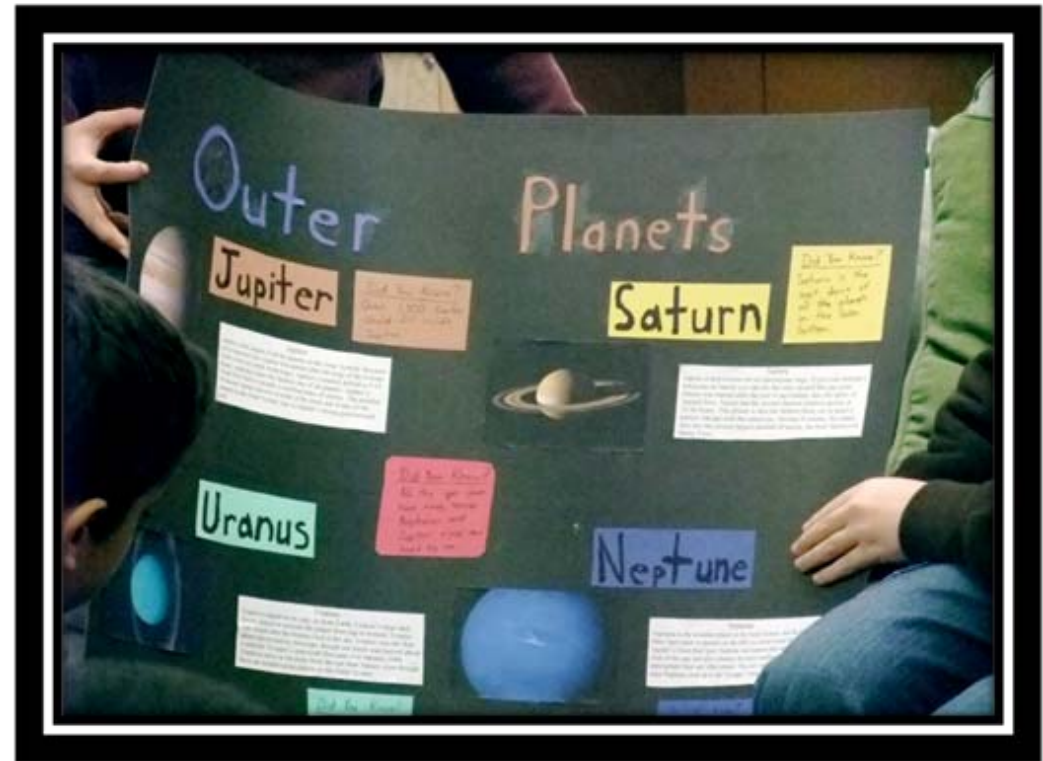
To engage groups of identified gifted/highly able students in intense academic, creative and intellectual challenges.



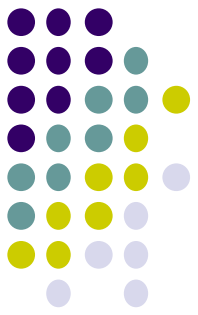
# Challenge Centre: Operations



- ❑ Service groups of 10-12 students for two to four day sessions
- ❑ Students attend challenge centre at Brock Elementary



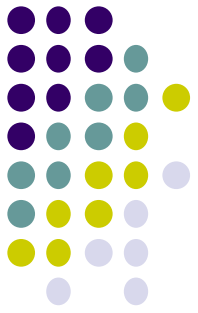
# What happens in the Challenge Centre?



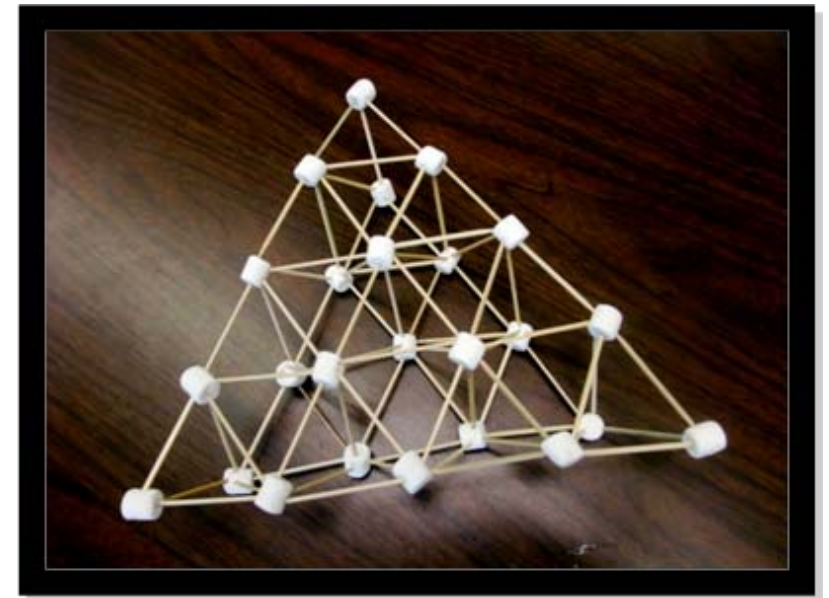
- ❑ Students are engaged in a variety of programs that challenge their abilities by using higher level thinking skills
- ❑ Many opportunities are provided for extensions to the regular curriculum, and “hands-on” learning
- ❑ Differentiated curriculum based on larger concepts such as the future, philosophy, physics, debating, leadership



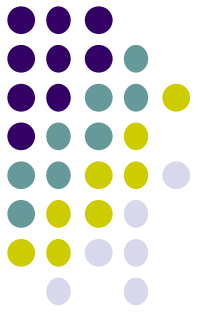
# Mentorship: Mission



To provide intermediate grade students who have a demonstrated passion with highly developed interests and talents an opportunity to work with more experienced people willing to share their interest and expertise in this area.



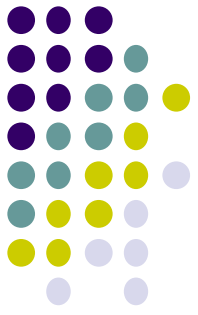
# Mentorship: Operations



- ❑ Students are matched with a volunteer mentor in their area of passion. Training is provided for both mentors and students. Parents attend an information session.
- ❑ A long term mentorship is a minimum of ten hours and the student is required to make a product which will be shared at three events including the year end Celebration.
- ❑ The program is for students in the intermediate grades 4-7

# Mentorship:

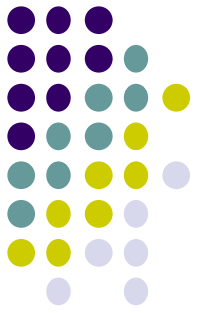
## Examples of Mentorship Opportunities



Examples of areas of passion include: music composition, accounting, neuroscience, song writing, plant biology, photography, video production, novel writing, environmental studies, architecture, costume design, anthropology



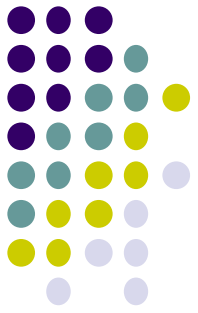
# Twice Exceptional: Mission



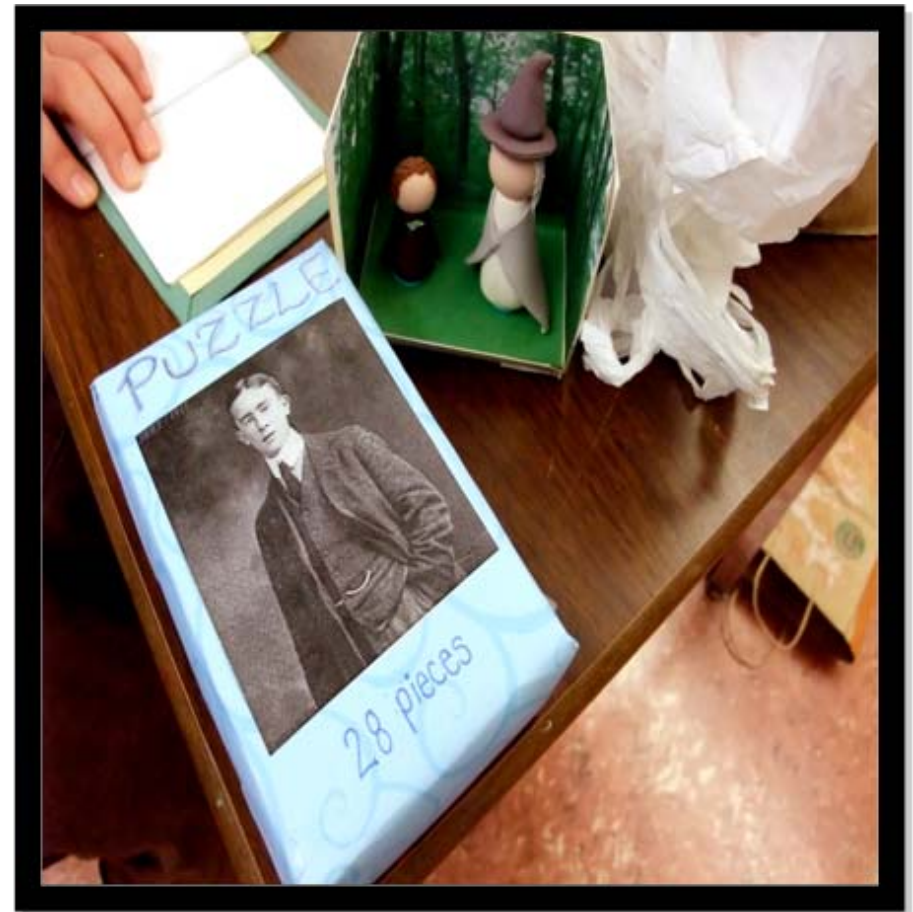
An outreach service that involves a combination of school visits, professional development for teachers, consultation, IEP meetings, and direct contact with students



# Twice Exceptional: Operations

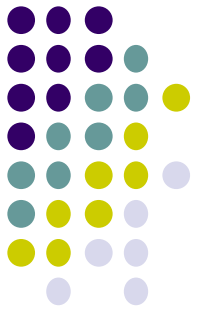


Twice exceptional programs invite students who are interested in a specific topic.

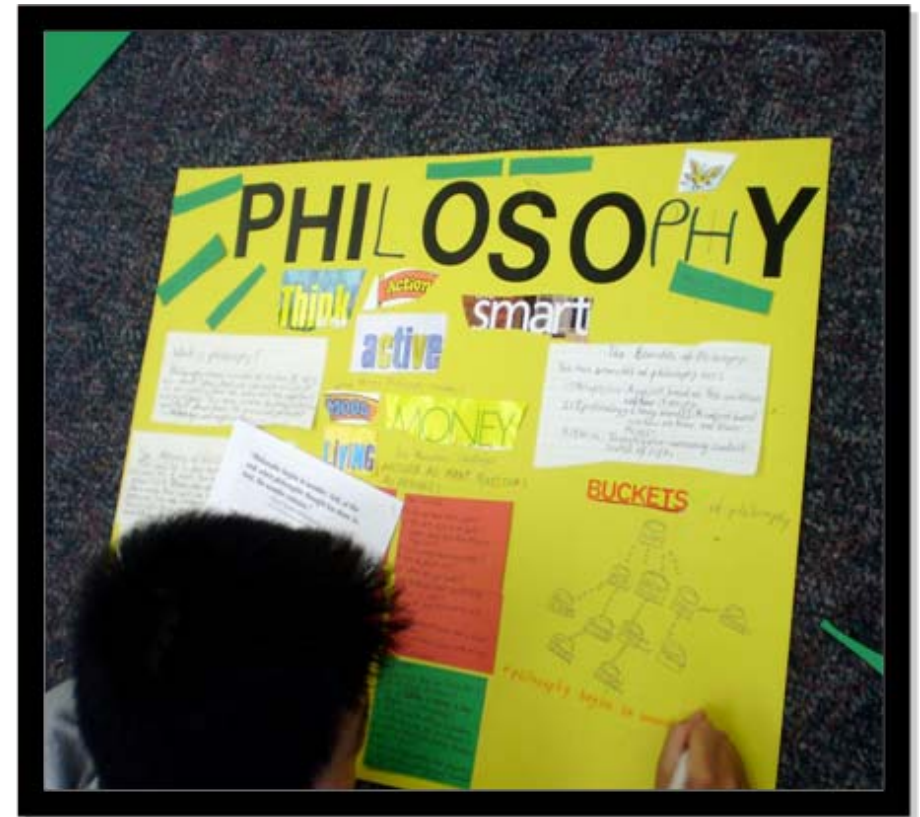




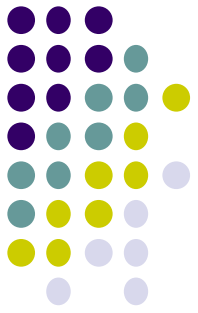
# Twice Exceptional: Operations



- ❑ Service groups of 10-12 students for two to four day sessions
- ❑ Students attend challenge centre at Brock Elementary



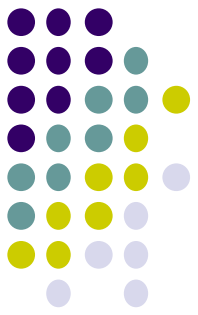
# Twice Exceptional: Pull In Programs



## Twice Exceptional Challenge Centre:

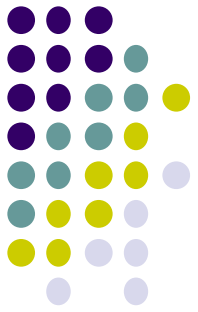
- Specifically tailored for gifted learning disabled/gifted emotionally fragile students
- Students can explore strengths in a variety of ways and learn practical strategies for managing their academic and classroom life

# What happens in the 2E Challenge Centre?



- ❑ Students are engaged in a variety of programs that challenge their abilities by using higher level thinking skills
- ❑ Many opportunities are provided for extensions to the regular curriculum, and “hands-on” learning
- ❑ Differentiated curriculum based on larger concepts such as the future, philosophy, physics, debating, leadership





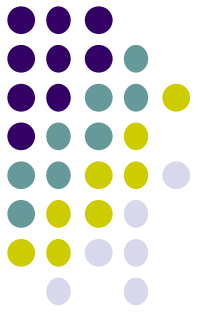
# Future Problem Solving Program

An internationally recognized program that serves students who require creative, futuristic and critical thinking opportunities within a challenging team setting.

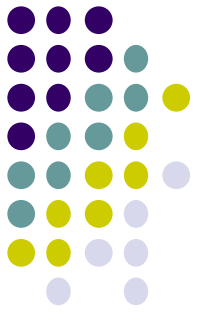
Participants work in teams of four to solve real world problems using the FPS six-step problem solving process.

FPS develops problem solving strategies, team work skills, oral and written communication and an awareness of the future and societal issues.

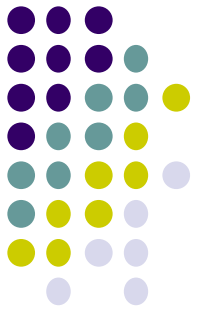
# MACC Programs: Operations



- ❑ Grades 4-7 academically gifted learners are enrolled in a full-time interdisciplinary program designed to support and challenge them by providing an intellectual peer group and a conceptually advanced curriculum.
- ❑ Students who are successful in a MAC Class typically seek challenges, enjoy self-directed learning, make connections regularly, demonstrate high level of personal responsibility and commitment and demonstrate strong potential for becoming autonomous learners.

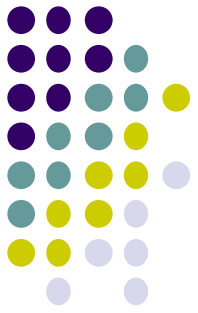


# A Potential Candidate for MACC...



# MACC Programs:

- ❖ The Multi Age Cluster Class (MACC) is a program for highly gifted learners. It is an interdisciplinary program designed to challenge the depth and breadth of each gifted student's critical and creative thinking, as well as broaden his/her knowledge and skill base beyond the prescribed curriculum. The MACC program provides a differentiated curriculum, which includes a combination of enrichment, compaction, integrated studies and project-based learning.



# MACC Programs: Primary Focus

## ❖ Higher Level Thinking Skills

- ❖ Apply
- ❖ Analyze
- ❖ Evaluate
- ❖ Synthesize

## ❖ Accelerated Pace

## ❖ Metacognition

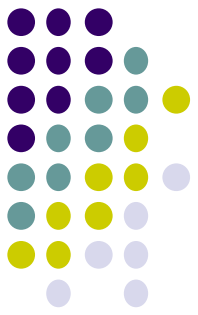
- ❖ “Examine how I learn & apply to my next learning opportunity”

## ❖ Early years = Direct Teach & Model

## ❖ Later years = Facilitate application and extension

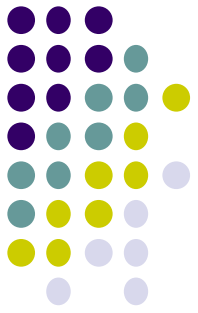


# Gifted Summer School Overview



- Program for gifted and highly able learners ages 5-13
- Designed to engage children in activities that will challenge their abilities, extend their interests, promote self-understanding and stimulate interactions with highly able peers
- Each year the programs offered depend on two factors: student interest and teacher expertise

# District Secondary Programs and Services

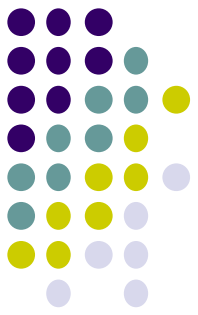


❖ **Transition Program**

❖ **GOLD Program**

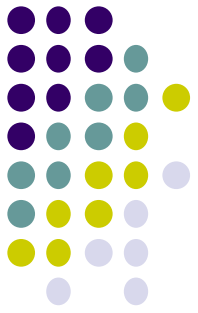
❖ **District Secondary Alternative  
Programs**

# The Transition Program: Mission



The Transition Program is a two year pre-university program that prepares academically gifted adolescents to achieve their goals of early entrance to university and successful studies thereafter. Students complete core academic courses at Grades 11 and 12, write provincial examinations and meet requirements of the Faculties to which they apply in order to achieve the BC Dogwood Certificate and early entrance to UBC.

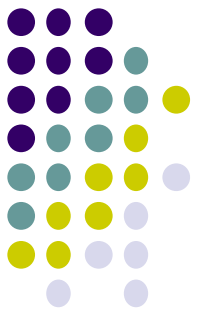
# The Transition Program: Operations



## Students are identified by:

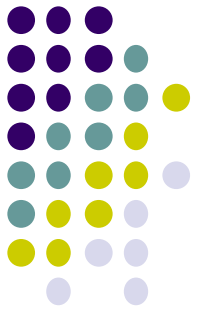
- ❑ information sessions for students and parents, large group assessment for all applicants, interviews, portfolio of work, demonstrated success from recent report cards and awards.
- ❑ psycho-educational assessment
- ❑ criteria include exceptional demonstrated and potential abilities, social-emotional strength, stamina and resilience, and student motivation, work ethic, goals and career interests
- ❑ orientation at UBC location for one week in May

# GOLD Program: Mission



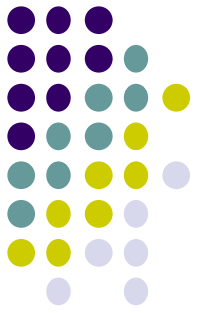
- ❑ A high school program (gr. 8-12) for gifted students with learning disabilities and gifted students who are severely underachieving.
- ❑ Students have a GOLD support block, and in grade 8, also have English 8 taught by the GOLD teacher
- ❑ The rest of the classes are integrated with the rest of the school population; however, supports are put in place as needed for each student (e.g. Extra time on tests, use of computers, etc.)

# GOLD Program: Mission



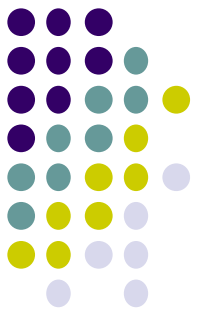
- ❑ The program focuses on self-advocacy, an enriched learning environment, support and accommodations as needed, and student self-awareness
- ❑ There are two programs: one at Prince of Wales Secondary and one at David Thompson Secondary

# District Secondary Alternative Programs: Mission



- ❑ In addition to the neighbourhood school, the District offers a set of alternative programs to meet the needs of students.
- ❑ Students across the district may apply
- ❑ These programs have been developed for students who have demonstrated significantly high potential, talent and need for a challenging program in preparation for their post secondary education

# Continued Support and Advocacy



Thank you for your interest in gifted learners. At the VSB, we appreciate your continued support and interest in our programs. For information, visit the VSB website at [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca)

