



Junior Gifted Education Services Patriot High School 2023 – 2024

Juniors in the Gifted Education and Talent Development program will explore different dimensions of power and progress in the areas of self, society, and science. Services for the year will be offered to students through Socratic Seminars, written reflections and artistic expressions, or asynchronous (on-demand) modules available through Canvas. The curriculum provided by Prince William County Schools (PWCS) offers the following topics for the experience:

DSP & the Ideal Person/Perfection (Sept. 21-22)
Majority (Oct 19-20)
Ethics in Science (Nov 13-14)
Space/Limits (Dec 4-5)

Is War Necessary? (Jan 3-4)
Earth's Resources (Feb. 21-22)
Rituals & Traditions (Mar. 4-5)

This seminar schedule will be posted in the Canvas course. These plans are all contingent upon PWCS's operating status.

Students will have the opportunity to explore these topics and refine critical, conceptual, reflective, creative, and collaborative thinking skills. The focus for our identified gifted 11th graders will be on critical thinking. They will be assessed on the following critical thinking skills:

- Concepts
- Recognizing Points of View
- Using Information
- Recognizing Inferences and Interpretations
- Identifying Assumptions

Students should anticipate receiving a blue pass invitation with a selection of blocks where seminars will be offered. Students are encouraged to select the offering that is the least disruptive to their education and make up any work that is missed. There will be times when a teacher will refuse to let a student leave a class for seminar due to a pre-planned assessment or due to the academic standing of the student; however, if students find that a teacher consistently refuses without cause to let them come to seminar, please reach out to us.

Students will complete the Differentiated Services Plan (DSP) which allows them to reflect on their goals. This exercise provides information for resource teachers to meet the students' needs and will be mailed home in January to assist in the scheduling process for next school year.

Participation in the opportunities offered will be recorded and mailed to parents/guardians after the 1st semester and at the end of the year.

During the seminar experience, it is anticipated that devices will only be used for instructional purposes.

In April 2024, we are planning a field trip to the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. for participating students. If you are interested in chaperoning, we would appreciate your support.

The following options are also available for junior students identified as gifted:

* **Advanced classes** are not limited to students identified as gifted but are considered a vital part of services in high school. These courses provide acceleration and differentiation as a part of meeting the needs of gifted learners.

* If a student does not want to attend seminar but does not want to be removed from the gifted program, the student may be placed on "**conference**" status with parent permission. The student would meet several times with us to discuss academic goals and achievement.

* Students with extremely focused interests can complete an **independent study/project** instead of seminars. This option allows them to create their own "center;" the student would need to be self-motivated to develop and execute the plan. The resource teacher would act as an advisor and facilitator to the student.

Other options available for consideration during your sophomore and junior years:

* **Summer Residential Governor's Schools** provide students with FREE month-long learning opportunities on college campuses over the summer. Students may apply during sophomore and junior years but may only attend once. Admission is competitive. Tuition, housing, and meal costs are covered by the county. You may find application information on the Prince William County Schools Website.

*Students may also apply to attend the **Governor's School @ Innovation Park** for their junior and senior years. The program is not limited to gifted students but requires strong ability in math and science. These STEM students attend the George Mason University campus at Innovation Park in the morning and return to Patriot for lunch and their sixth and seventh blocks of instruction. Information is also on the PWCS site under "Academic Programs" and "Gifted Education."

We look forward to meeting you from 6PM-8PM at Patriot's Back-to-School Night on **September 7, 2023** in Room 1301. We will also be available at Touch Base from 8AM– 10AM on **October 9, 2023**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know!

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Gifted Education and Talent Development Teachers
Patriot High School

Junior Gifted Education Services
Patriot High School
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By signing on this page, you and your parent/guardian acknowledge that you have read and understand the information contained herein. Please submit this form to your Language Arts teacher, to Mr. Hegerle, or to Mrs. Phillips no later than September 25, 2023.

Student Printed Name

Date

Student Signature

Parent Printed Name

Date

Parent Signature

