

# Gifted Educational Opportunities in Jeffco Public Schools to Discuss with Principals

September 2024

Opportunity	Benefits	Possible Drawbacks & Notes
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GT Professional Development (PD) for School Staff at the Building Level</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">GT Department</a> is able to offer multiple different PD topics to help school staff become more knowledgeable and better equipped to work with advanced learners.</p> <p>Topics include GT 101, Depth &amp; Complexity trainings, enrichment activities &amp; materials, etc.</p>	<p>Principals may have limited time to provide PD to their staff.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GT Online Professional Development (PD) for Interested Staff</b></p>	<p>The GT Department offers courses for Jeffco employees that are inexpensive (\$50 each), asynchronous, and can be used for salary advancement.</p>	<p>No drawbacks. The GT Department can cover the cost of these courses for a principal who is interested in taking them.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Classroom Extensions and Enrichment</b></p>	<p>These are offered by the GT Department through <a href="#">GT Resource Teachers</a> and through <a href="#">Curriculum &amp; Instruction</a>.</p>	<p>Most of these resources are free, however, there are limited licenses for some products (like BEAST academy), so some of these can add an additional cost to schools.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Elementary: Schedule Alignment to Group by Ability (particularly for math)</b></p>	<p>Scheduling math at the same time throughout a school works great for students to be able to access the math level they need.</p>	<p>While this can work well in smaller population schools, there are always tradeoffs when schedules are created. It is harder to do this in bigger schools.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GT Pull-Out Activities and Enrichment</b></p>	<p>This occurs in some schools around the district and is usually done by a paraeducator or a part-time teacher. Advanced students in a particular subject may be pulled from different classrooms to form a group to work on a project or to receive enrichment or extensions.</p>	<p>There is a cost to schools to have the staff for pull-out activities.</p> <p>The district GT Department would like to support these efforts and partner with schools providing pull-out opportunities for advanced students.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Partnerships with Nearby Schools that are Different Levels to Offer Advanced Opportunities for Students</b></p>	<p>The most common example: If an elementary school is close to a middle school, advanced students can walk to the middle school to take advanced math.</p> <p>It is worth exploring options that are around.</p>	<p>This is a great opportunity for schools that are close to each other.</p> <p>If that isn't the case, it is more of a challenge, and often involves parents driving students.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Online Classes for GT Students</b></p>	<p>Principals can try work with <a href="#">Jeffco Virtual Academy (JVA)</a> or <a href="#">Jeffco Remote Learning Program (JRLP)</a> for upper-level classes. There are also other opportunities, like <a href="#">Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)</a> and <a href="#">Brigham Young University (BYU) Independent Study</a>.</p>	<p>This may cause management/supervision challenges at the school for these classes.</p> <p>The GT Department had GT core middle school courses through JVA however that is on hold for the 2024-25 school year. Hopefully a new agreement with JVA or JRLP will happen for 2025-26.</p>