

**Gifted Education Services  
Fall 2020**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

*Pertaining to Starting the School Year*

We have created this Frequently Asked Question list for gifted education programming to supplement the general information prepared by the district. Please refer to the district information pertaining to the school year opening for general information. ([PVUSD 2020-21 Reopening Plan](#))

*The questions posed here are specific to PVSchools gifted services. We will continue to update this list of FAQs as additional information becomes available. Please check back for regular updates.*

**Gifted Testing & Placements**

***Testing at my child's school was cancelled in the Spring; how do I get my child tested?***

We will contact families that were previously scheduled for gifted testing. Students will be tested at their school sites or at the district office. Parents will be contacted via email as soon as testing dates, times and locations are confirmed.

***If children identify as gifted when tested after the school year begins will they be able to participate in a gifted program?***

Yes, we have alerted principals that some change in placements will be necessary once gifted testing at the schools has been completed this fall.

## Gifted Programming Options

### ***What is the difference between PVConnect vs. PVOnline for gifted students?***

#### **PVConnect**

Represents the same placement, teacher and curriculum that would occur in person, but virtually. Your child is placed in what would be their regular classroom setting, but will learn online with their gifted teacher using real time instruction. This format will allow students to continue learning with the same teacher after returning to school face-to-face once the schools physically open.

- **Gifted Cluster Model:** Gifted identified students in grades K - 4 will be placed with a gifted cluster teacher from their home school and will continue on with that teacher once school physically opens.
- **Honors Classes (Content Replacement):** Students will follow the same type of schedule virtually as they would have in person. Students in grades 4 - 6 who participate in Honors classes in math and/or reading (Content Replacement) will be assigned to a homeroom teacher as usual. Students will then “attend” honors classes with the school’s gifted specialist at the time designated for those classes. The teachers will communicate with parents to provide the necessary contact information and schedule.
- **Self-contained Gifted Program:** Students accepted into this program will begin the year learning virtually with their self-contained gifted teacher and will continue with this teacher once school reopens physically.

#### **PVOnline**

PVOnline is an approved Arizona Online Instruction provider through the Arizona State Board of Education and is fully accredited as an extension of the school district. All PVOnline teachers are Highly Qualified and certified in their area of instruction. PVOnline is recommended for parents who are unable to have their gifted children learning real time through PVConnect (which directly supports our regular gifted programs). PVOnline utilizes Edgenuity (for Grs. K-8), a program that includes enrichment activities and accelerated learning appropriate for gifted students. Edgenuity online courses and curriculum are built using an instructional model grounded in research and are aligned to state standards, the Common Core, and the

NGSS.

## PVConnect FAQs

***In PVConnect will my child be instructed with the Self-Contained Gifted teacher from the school we applied to?***

Yes, your student will receive real-time virtual instruction from the Self-Contained Gifted teacher in the school in which you were accepted.

***In PVConnect will my child be instructed by the Honors teachers for Content Replacement?***

Yes, your student will receive real-time virtual instruction from the Honors teachers. The schedules will be established by each elementary school, as is typically done.

***In PVConnect, can we choose to continue with this for the entire semester after the school reopens?***

Yes, PVConnect will continue to exist once students resume learning in the school setting. After school reopens physically parents will have the option of remaining on PVConnect, using PVOnline, or returning to school for in person instruction. This holds true for all of the gifted programs, including the DLC and Journey students.

## PVOnline FAQs

***If I choose PVOnline for the year will my spot be held in Self-Contained for next year?***

If you have been accepted into the SCG program for the school year 2020-21 but choose to begin the school year with PVOnline (not PVConnect) then your spot in the SCG program will remain available to you to return for this current school year. In this scenario, please call our gifted office and we will work with you to reserve a spot for the upcoming school year.

***Will there be a Self-Contained Program, Content Replacement, or Gifted Cluster Classes in PVOnline?***

Not specifically, but gifted students will be able to test out of material they have already mastered so that they can learn at their individual challenge levels in all content areas while guided by a PVOnline teacher.

***Will teachers in PVOnline differentiate instruction for gifted students?***

Current PVOnline teachers may or may not have training in gifted education, but they have experience differentiating curriculum and instruction for exceptional learners. The Gifted Education Department will provide additional resources and training to support PVOnline teachers with gifted students in their classes. This support will help PVOnline teachers implement differentiated instruction in their courses and modify coursework when needed.

***Will students in PVOnline using Edgenuity be challenged?***

Yes, the program is self-paced, personalized, and based on students' individual proficiency levels. Students will not spend time learning content they already have mastered. Courses in Edgenuity are customized based on student proficiency.

**General Questions**

***What will instruction in the gifted classes look like? How much time will be spent online with teachers/classmates/assignments?***

Instructional schedules will vary depending on the grade level and program model. Your child's teacher will share information about her curriculum and instruction, class schedule, etc., at the start of the school year as typically occurs.

***Self-contained Program at the Kindergarten level - Will students lose their spot in the class if they cannot complete the online work?***

No, students will not lose their place in the program if they have difficulties completing their schoolwork online. Parents should schedule a virtual meeting with the teacher to discuss obstacles to learning that arise.

***Are Kindergartners in the Self-Contained Gifted expected to be working at a 2nd grade level at the start of the school year?***

While the SCG program is accelerated, incoming Kindergarten students are not

expected to be working at the 2nd grade level at the start of the school year. Acceleration will occur as students are ready.

***Will the three week probation period begin at the start of the school year?***

The three week probation period for all Self-Contained Gifted Programs will begin once students are learning face-to-face.

***I am concerned about how I will get my Kindergarten student online and up and running.***

This is a districtwide concern and not specific to Gifted. The district will address this concern, as will the teachers.

***What will specials (P.E., Music, Art, etc.) look like?***

The school principal and teachers will share information on the special area classes that are offered at each school.

***What will classes look like at Honors Academy at DSMS?***

Questions regarding Honors Academies at DSMS will need to go through DSMS as this is a site-based program.