



Journey

*A personalized path to success for
Paradise Valley Gifted Middle Schoolers.*



Why create a new program?

Program Objectives

- *To provide a differentiated middle school experience based on the academic needs of gifted learners.*
- *Students demonstrate mastery of English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies standards in an evidence-based format presented in multiple modes and applied to thematic units of study.*

Program Objectives

- *Student learning is scheduled in daily learning blocks with opportunities to examine content and demonstrate mastery at a personalized pace.*
- *Students accept an active role in this blended learning with the integration of personal choice, interest and teacher-coached goal setting.*



Program Design

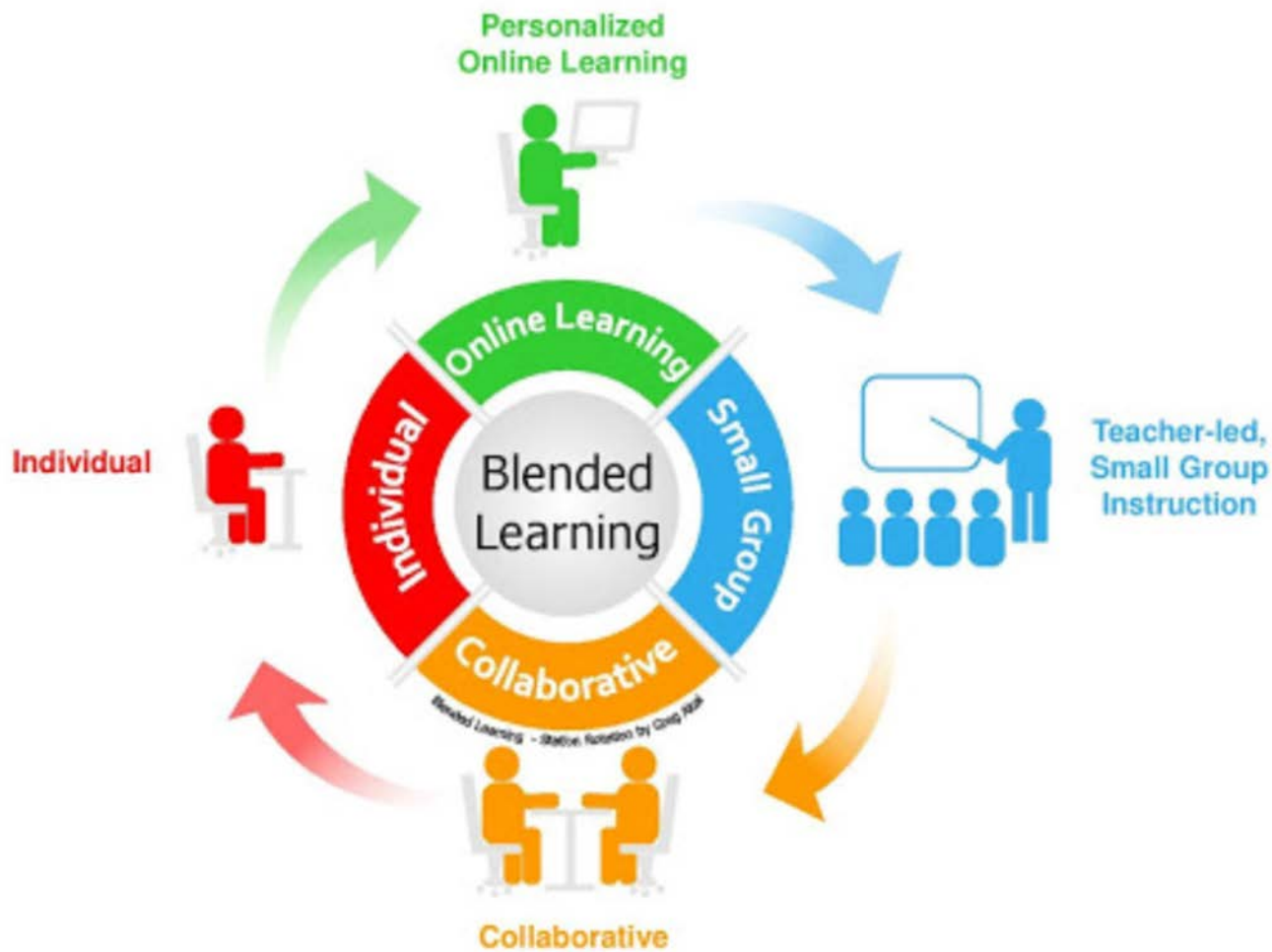
- Teachers work with students in small groups or individually based on their individual learning targets, students' strengths, and interests.
- Students are given choices on how they learn the content and demonstrate their knowledge.
- Videos, WebQuests, research projects, choice boards, textbooks, or other activities are available to impart knowledge to students.

Program Design

- Grouping is flexible and may also vary by student need and evidence.
- Teachers facilitate blended learning environments by developing the units and orchestrating the modes of learning.
- Teachers coach & encourage students to reach their academic potential.

What is Blended Learning?





Blended Learning...

- creates a flexible learning environment where teachers collaborate with students to design individualized learning plans
- Teachers and students set personalized goals,
- examine individual academic data,
- design projects rooted in student interests
- Mastery of middle school state standards in Literature, Writing, Science and Social Studies are achieved.

Students are expected to:

- Be self-directed learners
- Be self-motivated learners
- Embrace project-based and problem-based learning

How does Journey differ from the DLC?

- Block scheduling
- Team of two teachers
- Individualized goal setting
- Personalized project-based learning
- Cohorts of 20-25 students in each 7th & 8th grade
- Community service projects
- Leadership opportunities available within MTMS

Mountain Trail Middle School Schedule

General Bell Schedule

Mon, Tues, Fri		Weds		Thurs	
1	9:00-9:55	1	9:00-10:30	Mentor	9:00-9:41
2	9:58-10:47	3	10:33-12:02	2	9:44-11:17
3	10:50-11:39	Lunch	12:05-12:35	Lunch	11:20-11:50
4	11:42-12:31	6	12:38-2:08	4	11:53-1:23
Lunch	12:34-1:04	8	2:11-3:40	7	1:26-2:56
6	1:07-1:56			Study Hall	3:00-3:40
7	1:59-2:48	*Students may earn a free study hall the first Thursday of the month (beginning September) for Coyotes Count			
8	2:51-3:40				

Proposed Schedule for Journey Students

Journey Sample Schedule

Mon, Tues, Fri		Weds		Thurs	
1	Social Studies/ Science Block	1	SS/Sci Block	Mentor	9:00-9:41
2		3	Elective	2	SS/Sci Block
3	Elective	Lunch	12:05-12:35	Lunch	11:20-11:50
4	Math	6	Elective	4	Math
Lunch	12:34-1:04	8	ELA Block	7	ELA Block
6	Elective			Study Hall	3:00-3:40
7	ELA Block	*Students may earn a free study hall the first Thursday of the month (beginning September) for Coyotes Count			
8					

Mountain Trail Electives

- Environmental Adventures
- Venture Lab
- Lead: Powered by the 7 Habits
- Digital Media
- Intro to Computer Science 1
- Exploring Computer Science 2
- Yearbook
- Band
- Orchestra
- Video Production
- Spanish
- Mandarin
- Culinary Arts
- Drama
- Art
- P.E.
- Choir
- Applied Technology

Acceptance Criteria

- ❑ Gifted qualification at 97 percent in any two areas: verbal, quantitative or non-verbal;
- ❑ Gifted qualification at 97 percent in one area, AND 90 percent in one other area PLUS a principal recommendation
- ❑ IQ of 130 or higher;
- ❑ PLUS performing or highly performing in AzMerit reading and math in 2018-2019.

Applications accepted February 12, 2020.



2020-2021 Application for The Journey
for Gifted Middle School Students

Applications & Teacher recommendation forms are located at the PVUSD Gifted website.