

TABERNACLE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PROGRAM FOR ENRICHMENT, REASONING AND CREATIVITY CURRICULUM GRADES 5-8

Revised: June, 2011

Aligned to the 2009 New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards

Board Adopted: November 21, 2011

TABERNACLE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Tabernacle School District is to create and maintain a safe and secure learning environment that ensures that all students in grades Pre K-8 attain success in mastering the *New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards*. The home, the school, and the community working together will provide effective learning experiences that foster the academic, personal, intellectual, physical, social, and emotional growth necessary for students to become responsible, productive members of a diverse and global society. We commit to a comprehensive system of support to assure these outcomes.

George Rafferty, Superintendent

Margareth Alexandersen, Ed.D, Supervisor of Curriculum K-8

Rhonda Cutts, Teacher

Philosophy

The Tabernacle School District recognizes that children with academic gifts and talents have special needs and seeks to provide for those needs in order to ensure that students make academic growth throughout their educational experience in the district. Providing for those needs for students in grades five through eight is accomplished by providing enrichment services through our Program for Enrichment, Reasoning, and Creativity (PERC). This service has been a part of our educational process for over 30 years.

Program Description

The Tabernacle PERC program is a gifted and talented program designed to meet the varied needs of the more capable students in a small rural school district. All students are assessed for inclusion in PERC annually. The program involves enrichment classes that are subject-specific in the middle school. (5-8). Students are identified based on standardized testing scores, grades, teacher assessment with the Renzuli scale, and IQ scores. All programming is intended to satisfy educational code requirements for the exceptionally able student in grades 5-8.

N.J.A.C. 6A: 8-1.3 Definitions:

“Gifted and Talented students” means those *exceptionally able* students who possess or demonstrate levels of ability, in one or more content areas, when compared to their chronological peers in the local district and who require modifications of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities.

N.J.A.C. 6A: 8-3.1 Curriculum and Instruction:

(a) District boards of education shall ensure that curriculum and instruction are designed in such a way that all students are able to demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by the Core Curriculum Content Standards and shall ensure that appropriate instructional; adaptations are designed and delivered for students with disabilities, for students with limited English proficiency, and for students who are Gifted and Talented. 5. District boards of education shall be responsible for identifying Gifted and Talented students and shall provide them with appropriate instructional adaptations and services. i. District boards of education shall make provisions for an ongoing identification process and appropriate educational challenges for Gifted and Talented students initiated in kindergarten and reviewed annually through grade 12.ii. District boards of education shall develop appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used for Gifted and Talented students indicating content, process, products, and learning environment.

Program Goals

Tabernacle Township Schools provide an excellent quality education to all students. The PERC program is not designed to replace or substitute for the high quality classroom instruction that all students receive. The goal of the program is to challenge and develop the abilities for those students who demonstrate needs as described in the code listed above. Some of the modifications for those students are listed here:

- Enrichment to subject area curriculum
- Higher level thinking: analysis, evaluation and synthesis
- Logic and creativity
- Healthy risk taking
- Independence and choice
- Curriculum compacting
- Differentiation strategies
- Academic rigor and perseverance in challenging tasks

Providing such support and encouraging achievement in these students creates the potential for students to leave our district ready to continue their education in a challenging high school curriculum and to continue to achieve their maximum potential.

Selection Criteria

Selection criteria for PERC and Enrichment may vary depending upon test scores available as state testing evolves. The core scores drawn from include the following:

- I.Q Score (Test of Cognitive Skills is given in the even numbered years to the whole grade.)
- Standardized Test Scores
- Renzulli Score (A teacher Inventory/checklist)
- Grades
- Reading Levels by grade equivalent
- Math Levels by grade equivalent

Program Overview

Middle School (Grades 5-8)

In these grades the identified students may qualify for enriched classes in specific subject areas.

Grade Five

Students in fifth grade meet daily for an enrichment science class. Inquiry and problem solving enhance the regular curricular materials, and students are also engaged in contests such as New Jersey Art & Essay Endangered Species Contest.

Grade Six

Sixth graders meet daily for enrichment math in which the sixth grade math and certain pre-algebra units are compacted. In addition to critical thinking and problem solving in math, a money theme is carried through the year. Students research money and coins, create their own coins, participate in [BizWorld](#), a business simulation, have a stock market competition, and visit the Federal Reserve and Mint as a culmination of this theme.

Grade Seven

Seventh grade PERC students meet daily for enrichment to the Science curriculum. In addition to a research and inquiry based science program, students participate in special activities such as Future Cities Competition.

Grade Eight

Eighth grade P.E.R.C. students meet daily for enrichment to the Science curriculum. In addition to a research and inquiry based science program, students participate in special activities and competitions.

Fifth through Eighth Grade

The content and standards for the middle grades are the same as those set forth for Science or Math in the Tabernacle curriculum per grade level. Please consult those curricula. In addition the teacher will include opportunities for research and in-depth studies that go above grade level and encourage perseverance in preparation for an academically rigorous high school career