

IGNITE GIFTED PROGRAM

The IGNITE pull-out program is designed to address the needs of high ability learners in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade. Students are identified using GPA, nationally normed achievement scores and ability scores. A research-based curriculum, developed through the Center of Gifted Education at the College of William and Mary, is the basis of the program. The units of study are concept based (ex. change, systems, etc.). The first semester consists of Language Arts units and the second semester focuses on Science/Social Studies units; they are interdisciplinary in nature. Students meet during the regular school day for 3 to 3-1/2 hours each week (dependent upon the grade level) in a small group setting. IGNITE students participate in planning and implementing our school YouTube news show called *Crusader Network News*. They assume the roles of anchor, reporter, and more. Leading roles in the Lower School Veterans Day Celebration and coordinating the Annual Lower School Toys for Tots toy drive are also responsibilities of the IGNITE students.

ENTRANCE CRITERIA

SINGLE FACTOR QUALIFIER

A student with an ability index at or greater than 96% on Otis-Lennon, Wechsler Intelligence Scale (WISC IV), InView, PTCS or other nationally recognized ability tests gains automatic entrance into the program. InView (3rd and 5th Grades) and PTCS (1st Grade) are administered in school as a part of the Terra Nova Testing in the spring each year. Scores will be taken from current year tests and tests that are no more than one-year-old.

MULTIPLE FACTOR QUALIFIERS

A student meeting two of the following three dimensions gains entrance into the program.

- A. Reasoning: ability index at or greater than 93% on Otis-Lennon, Wechsler Intelligence Scale (WISC IV), InView, PTCS or other nationally recognized tests. Scores will be taken from current year tests and tests that are no more than one-year-old.
- B. Achievement: achievement at or greater than 94% in Total Reading and/or Total Math on the Terra Nova achievement tests or other nationally

recognized achievement tests such as IOWA or CAT. Scores will be taken from current year tests and tests that are no more than one-year-old.

- C. Performance: successful classroom performance with a 96% overall Grade Point Average (GPA) on all graded subjects. GPA for students entering in the fall will be taken from the final grades of the prior year. GPA for students entering in the second semester will be taken from the average of the first semester grades of the current school year.

Any student who qualifies with Dimension A and B with a classroom performance of 2.75 or less will be admitted for a probationary period of 9 weeks. If the GPA does not improve to a 3.0 after nine weeks, the student may be dismissed from the program.

Any student qualifying for the program using Dimension C (successful classroom performance) who drops below a 3.0 GPA at the end of a nine weeks will be placed on probation. The student may be dismissed from the program if GPA does not increase to a 3.0 at the end of the next 9 weeks and 3.25 the following nine weeks.

A student holding a D grade in a core subject will not be admitted to or retained in the program.

For more information, contact Julie Sellars at jsellars@firstpresacademy.com.