



## Parent Quarterly Update: Extended Services – December 2017–

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As we usher in the winter months, let's find time to continue our learning and explore new opportunities. Below are some Extended Program updates and coming events, all of which are posted/will be posted here on the [Extended Services webpage](#) (please see the left sidebar for details).

[Extended Services Updated Handbook, 2018](#): The handbook has been revised and will be posted on the website in January. The handbook reflects the research of the Extended Services Team over the past two years in hopes of always sharing a transparent and reflective guide of the continuum of services offered here in Barrington Community School District 220. We are proud to share that the Extended Services Program, and its reach, have only been enhanced:

- The criteria for automatic student identification for the Extended Spring Review of 2018 will be broadened. [Details will be posted on the website soon.](#)
- We have integrated the Scales for Identifying Gifted Students (SIGS) as a means to offer more teacher voice to the process.
- Grounded in contemporary research, we understand that our approach to meeting students' needs in the district is rooted in the Level of Service Model (LoS). The Levels of Service (LoS) approach to instructional planning and programming allows educators to support students of advanced ability and talents at an early age when an instructional need arises (Treffinger & Selby, 2009; Treffinger, Young, Nassab, & Wittig, 2004). The LoS Model recognizes that services begin

by supporting all students, while becoming more nuanced to meet various needs, as students develop. Students' needs are met through differentiated instruction, flexible grouping, enrichment, and acceleration.

- The Extended Math curriculum will continue to evolve based on our revised curriculum maps in grades 6-9 to accelerate students two-grade levels by the end of their freshman year. We continue to use *The Elements of Mathematics Foundations* materials, however, we have transitioned to a blended online course. Starting with 6<sup>th</sup> grade this year, the blended model will be integrated at each grade level until it reaches Extended Math in 9<sup>th</sup> grade (2020-2021).
- Extended Science is aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) but we embrace an accelerated approach within the grade-level to allow for more opportunities to engage in labs and focus on the engineering standards. This places biology within the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Extended Science experience starting this school year. The transition to 9<sup>th</sup> grade Honors chemistry is still preserved.
- Extended Visual Arts students may continue to enter into Drawing/Painting II courses in their freshman year.

The course pathways representing the potential trajectory for most Extended Services students, grades 6-12, for 2018-2019 have been updated. Revisions are made annually to align with the BHS Course Guide. Please do contact the BHS counselors with questions regarding specific courses. [Extended Services Middle School to High School Course Pathways \(2018-2019\)](#).

### **Coming Events to look for:**

#### [Illinois Association for Gifted Children \(IAGC\) Parent Conference](#)

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018

Location: Marriott, Naperville, IL

[BCGT Student Panel: Life in High School](#)

Date & Time: February 6, 2018, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Location: Barrington Area Library

Audience: All Parents & Extended Services Students, Grade 8

Description: This event is sponsored by the Barrington Council for Gifted & Talented (BCGT). It is a wonderful opportunity for 8th grade Extended Service students to hear about the high school experience from Barrington High School students! The transition to high school does not have to be one filled with anxiety. Please join us with your 8th grader to hear more about the course pathways students choose, socializing, and joining clubs.

[Parent University- Bridging the Cultural Digital Gap](#)

Date & Time: February 21, 2018, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: Barrington High School (Door 1), GRC

Audience: All Parents

Description: Brandon Tessers (M.A., Marriage and Family Therapy) is a counselor with the Center for Identity Potential. He will be sharing a message that will help families balance a healthy integration of technology into their daily lives. Brandon will help us all explore the conflict that technology sometimes creates and the important questions we must ask ourselves to find the happy medium. "Are we more concerned than parents in the 70's or are we simply faced with different obstacles?" Brandon presents a framework to make conflict less likely or less intense within the household.

More resources can be found on the [Barrington Council for Gifted and Talented \(BCGT\) website](#), i.e. parent support and wonderful student opportunities. I hope the joys of the holiday season are with you over the winter break and that the new year is filled with many precious memories!

Sincerely,



April D. Jordan, Ed.D.

Director of Extended Programs & Staff Development

Office: (847) 842-3529

