GIFTED PROGRAMS IN SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS



Sarasota County Schools is committed to meeting the unique needs of every gifted learner. Our gifted education services are designed to challenge, enrich, and inspire students to reach their highest potential.

Each student with a Gifted Education Plan (EP) receives an individualized plan based on their strengths – academic, creative, and intellectual – advanced learning needs, and areas of giftedness. The plan is designed to build upon the student's strengths and interests while addressing the areas of advanced potential that require growth and acceleration. The EP team sets measurable goals and determines the specially designed instruction, services, and delivery model that will best support student success.

A CONTINUUM OF GIFTED SERVICES

Sarasota County Schools offers a variety of service delivery modes to support the needs of gifted learners.

1 Full-day Gifted Services

Instruction provided throughout the school day by a gifted-certified teacher

2 Partial-day Gifted Services

Instruction from a gifted-certified teacher in specific subject areas or classes

3 Resource Services

Instruction from a gifted-certified teacher for a designated amount of time each week to support the goals identified in the EP

4 Consultation Services

A gifted-certified teacher works collaboratively with the general education teacher to provide instructional strategies, enrichment opportunities, and support within the general education classroom

5 Accelerated Learning Opportunities

Advanced coursework, subject acceleration, or other accelerated learning options may be appropriate to address the student's educational needs

The specific service delivery model is determined by the EP team and is based on the student's individualized educational needs, strengths, and goals. The model may change over time as the student's needs evolve.

GIFTED MAGNET ENVIRONMENTS IN SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS

Gifted Magnet School Site Programs are located within comprehensive Sarasota County Schools. These programs emphasize enrichment and acceleration of the FL BEST Standards through rigorous instruction, deeper levels of thinking, creativity, inquiry, collaboration, and authentic problem-solving experiences.

AVAILABLE GIFTED MAGNET ENVIRONMENTS

ELEMENTARY GIFTED MAGNET PROGRAMS

- Fruitville Elementary
- Toledo Blade Elementary
- Venice Elementary

SECONDARY GIFTED MAGNET PROGRAM

- Booker Middle School
- Laurel Nokomis School (Grades 6–8)
- Sarasota Middle School (Cohort Model)
- Woodland Middle School

GRADES 2–12

- Pine View School

GIFTED MAGNET PILLARS

1 RIGOROUS LEARNING

Year-long pacing guides for gifted learners providing complex content, authentic transfer of learning, and interdisciplinary approach enhancements curated for the highest performers

- Mastery of grade-level standards
- Strong academic foundations
- High expectations for all

2 LEARNING THAT GOES DEEPER

Students explore concepts through higher-order thinking, analysis, and creative problem-solving experiences

- Critical thinking
- Inquiry & Investigation
- Complexity & Depth
- Creativity & Innovation

3 AUTHENTIC LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students apply knowledge in real-world, meaningful ways through collaborative and student-driven experiences

- Project-based learning
- Real-world problem solving
- Research & Investigation

4 CURATED ENRICHMENT

Teachers use carefully selected supplemental resources that extend learning and support gifted principles

- Extends and enriches grade-level learning
- Increases complexity
- Supports gifted principles
- Fosters creativity and innovation

5 LEARNING DESIGNED FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Instruction intentionally incorporates gifted best practices to nurture the habits of mind and intellectual engagement gifted learners need to thrive

- Student autonomy
- Flexible pathways
- Open-ended tasks
- Reflection & metacognition
- Intellectual challenge



GIFTED MAGNET PROGRAMS

SARASOTA County Schools

All programs provide rigorous learning for gifted students grounded in enrichment experiences and guided by gifted principles, meeting the unique needs of gifted learners.

Program Features	Grades 2–12 Pine View School	Grades K–5 Fruitville El. (North Co.) Toledo Blade El. (North Port) Venice El. (South Co.)	Grades 6–8 Booker MS (North Co.) Laurel Nokomis School (Mid Co.) Sarasota MS (North/Mid Co.) Woodland MS (North Port)
Gifted-endorsed teachers	✓	✓	✓
School for the Gifted	✓		
Gifted magnet program in traditional neighborhood school		✓	✓
Accelerated coursework available	✓	✓	✓
Enrichment, clubs	✓	✓	✓
Extracurricular activities	✓	✓	✓
Traditional athletics		✓	✓
Pocket stops for transportation	✓	✓	✓

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 Will my child be challenged in the gifted program at their districted school?

A: Yes, gifted services provide advanced learning opportunities at every school.

- *Instruction aligned to each student's Education Plan (EP)*
- *Gifted certified teachers provide differentiated instruction*
- *Enrichment, higher-level thinking, and problem-solving*
- *Acceleration based on student need*
- *Ongoing review to ensure continued academic growth and challenge*

2 What qualifies my child for a Gifted Magnet Program?

A: Student must be gifted-eligible and meet additional district entrance criteria.

Eligibility review may include:

- Superior classroom performance
- Academic achievement results
- State assessment performance

**Gifted eligibility alone does not guarantee admission to gifted magnet sites.*

3 How are Gifted Magnet Programs in Sarasota County Schools moving beyond acceleration to deepen learning for gifted students?

A: *Sarasota County Schools' Gifted Magnet Programs continue to evolve to reflect research-based best practices in gifted education. Students receive rigorous instruction aligned to FL BEST Standards while engaging in curated enrichment, authentic project-based learning, inquiry, and critical thinking. Our focus is not only to accelerate students through content but also to deepen their understanding, cultivate creativity, and empower students to become thoughtful problem solvers, innovative thinkers, and lifelong learners.*

LEARN MORE

For more information about gifted programming in Sarasota County Schools, please visit the SCS website linked HERE.

www.sarasotacountyschools.net/o/scs/page/gifted-magnet

