

October 6th, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

HWDSB is continuing to develop programming strategies and services for all students, including those identified as gifted. As part of HWDSB's commitment to continue to develop our gifted programming services, Enrichment and Innovation Centre programs are being offered for the 2020 -2021 school year. Your child meets HWDSB's criteria for the gifted learning exceptionality, and as such, is eligible to take part in our Enrichment and Innovation Program. The Gifted Program will:

- provide an opportunity for Gifted students to better understand themselves as learners;
- excite students with learning extensions that go beyond the curriculum;
- provide opportunities for students to collaborate, network, and problem-solve with intellectual peers;
- enable students to learn and practice social and self-advocacy skills;
- provide an opportunity for leadership development;
- deepen understanding and use of current technology and skills including networking, online learning tools, assistive technologies, media skills, and understanding safe online practice.

### **Program Information:**

- Information about the program can be found at <http://gifted.commonshwdsb.on.ca>
- Students will be grouped with other students from various schools across HWDSB and be placed in virtual classes which will meet via MS Teams. Students and groups will be assigned an HWDSB Special Assignment Teacher: Zoe Branigan-Pipe, Jenn Deans or Gerry Schaefer, Special Assignment Teachers for HWDSB. They can be contacted by email [zbraniga@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:zbraniga@hwdsb.on.ca), [jedeans@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:jedeans@hwdsb.on.ca), [gschaefer@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:gschaefer@hwdsb.on.ca)
- Special Assignment Teachers will endeavour to visit schools. Your school Learning Resource Teacher as well as the student's classroom teacher are your first contact if there are questions relating to the student's learning needs.

We look forward to helping your child succeed and thrive in the learning journey.