

Springfield Scholars Program



SCHOLARS HISTORY

1996 A group of seven 7th grade students and one teacher relocated from the WINGS full-time elementary program at Phelps to Central High School.

Over the past 25 years, enrollment and interest in the Scholars program has continued to increase.

2020 Currently, the Scholars program may serve up to 135 students in grades six through eight.

Each year, the number of applicants exceeds the number of allotted placements.

More info can be found at sps.org/scholars

SCHOLARS COURSE CONTENT

Scholars students are enrolled in courses integrating the Major Instructional Goals (MIGs) of the district at a higher level and an accelerated pace.



6th GRADE Scholars Courses

Required:

English Language Arts/Social Studies
Pre-Algebra or Algebra
Science

Electives:

Choir, Band, Orchestra, PE/Health,
or Art Foundations
(Art = HS Credit)

6th GRADE Scholars Courses

In addition -

All 6th grade Scholars core courses are located together, on the main floor, along with the Scholars office.



7th GRADE Scholars Courses

Required:

Social Studies

English Language Arts

+Seminar/Learning Lab

Four High School courses:

Earth Science Honors

Math (appropriate level)

Foreign Language

and/or other electives



8th GRADE Scholars Courses

Required:

Humanities
Philosophy
+Learning Lab

Five High School courses:

Physics First- Honors
Math (appropriate level)
Foreign Language
and/or other electives





PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Choose one of three options each year:

1. PE and Health at Central
 - 6th & 7th grades combined
 - 8th receives HS credit
2. Launch PE and Health
 - online
3. Explore PE and Health
 - summer

HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVES

- Scholars Debate
- Computers/Media
- Drama
- Arts/Graphic Design
- History/Social Studies
- Engineering
- Biomedical
- Culinary Arts
- Foreign Language
- Music
- Additional courses available from HS selection of studies



AFFECTIVE RESOURCES

The Scholars curriculum utilizes the **affective education competencies** developed by the Phelps Center for Gifted Education.



ASSESSMENTS

State and District:

- Missouri Assessment Program (MAP Test)
- End of Course (EOC) Algebra I, II, or Geometry
- I-Ready



ACADEMIC RECORDS



Grading

Students receive grades for Scholars and high school classes.

Criteria for grades are provided at the beginning of each class.

Transcripts

Students are enrolled in Scholars and high school classes.

A letter explaining the Scholars program is included with transcripts sent out of district or on to colleges.

GPA

High school courses taken by students **will be included** in their high school GPA.

Weighted courses will count towards their freshman multiplier. These courses help determine class rank and GPA.

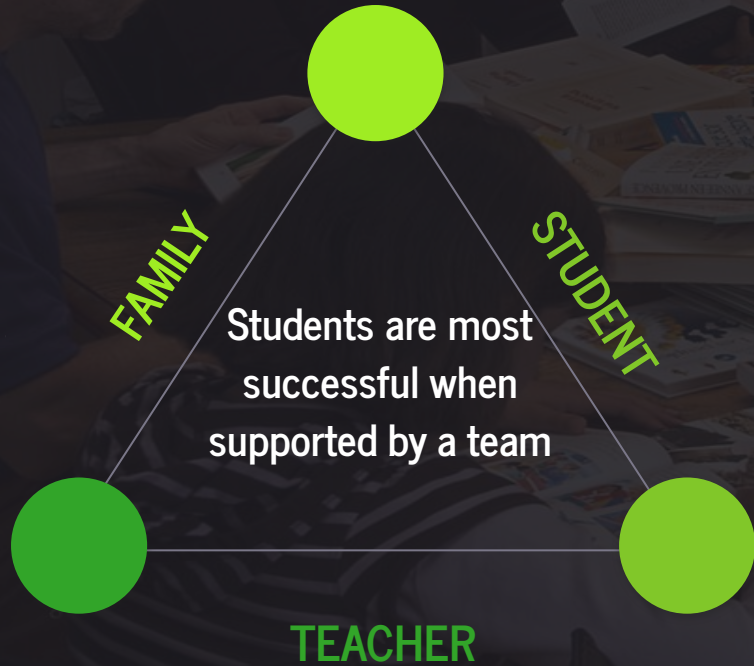
STUDY AND ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

Scholars students:

- are enrolled with high school students within their high school courses
- are evaluated using the same standards as highschool students
- should possess strong study and organizational skills
- will have homework



SCHOLARS FORMULA FOR SUCCESS



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Competitions

Scholars Bowl
Science Olympiad
National History Day
Debate
Archery
Math competitions
Art
Essay contests


Sports


Central High
School competitive
activities are
**HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS ONLY**
Middle school
athletic programs
are available
through student's
SPS school of
residency

Central club extracurriculars


Some are available
to middle school
students, inquire
as needed

SCHOLARS SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

 Scholars PAGE group: mopagesgf.org

 Monthly social activities

Past events:

 Bowling, swimming, movies, dances, game nights, skating, and community service.



GENERAL NEED TO KNOW



Busing

Students are eligible for busing
Pick up is at nearest corner
Brought directly to Central

Lunch

6th graders eat lunch during first period
7th & 8th graders eat lunch based on course schedule

Report Cards

Progress reports at mid-term and quarter

Interaction with older students

Scholars has been a part of the CHS student body for 25 years
Approximately 95% of Scholars students choose to remain at Central
Scholars Alumni support new students

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

NOT WINGS

Scholars is not full-time WINGS in a different location.

NOT REGULAR MS

This experience is completely unique from the general middle school experience.

ACHIEVEMENT

Strong academic self-determination is critical for success in the Scholars program.

NOT IB

Scholars is not a part of the International Baccalaureate Programme or a prerequisite for participation in IB.

STRESS

The student (and family) must be able to handle stress as it relates to high academic expectations.

GPA

Again, there will be grades and credits that count towards a student's high school GPA and transcripts.





SELECTION CRITERIA AND FORMULA

- Scholars Application for Consideration
- Assessments:
 - WISC-V x 2 (current within 12 months)
 - NNAT
 - SCAT
- Each applicant will attain a composite score based on the above information
- Score is used for placement


SELECTION TIMELINE


 **September 16:** Application mailed to eligible 5th grade students

 **October 7:** **DEADLINE** to turn in 1st round application

 **Sept & Oct:** Assessments (individual and small group)

 **November 25:** Notification of selection mailed

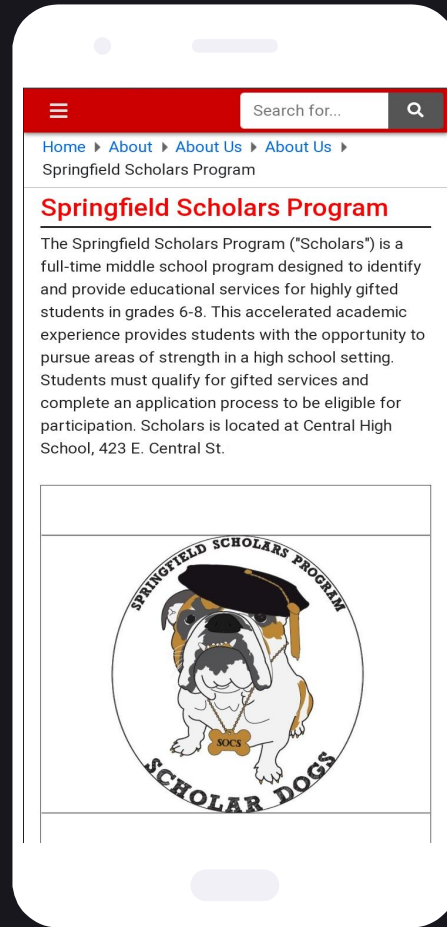
 **December 2:** **DUE DATE** Enrollment form turned in
Immediate Transfer submitted
Shadow Day scheduled
DEADLINE for 2nd round applications

 **December 16:** **DROP DATE** Placement forfeited if Due Date materials incomplete

 Timeline may be adjusted due to COVID-19 related restrictions 

CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS

Debbie Preston Nesbitt
Scholars Liaison at Central
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WHAT NEXT?

Read and reflect on the information in this presentation

- In-depth discussion with your child:
 - Is a significantly accelerated academic program in a non-traditional setting a good “fit” for them?
 - Does past/present academic performance indicate future success with regards to skills and commitment?



NEXT STEPS

If you answered **YES** to those questions
SUBMIT APPLICATION by Wednesday,
OCTOBER 14, 2020 by 3pm
to the Phelps Center for Gifted Education

Additional questions should be directed to
Debbie Preston Nesbitt
dpreston@spsmail.org

THANK YOU

...for considering the
Springfield Scholars
program for your
child's educational
needs!

