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**Program of Accelerated Curriculum & Enrichment  
5th Grade Parent Meeting**

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Edison Middle School  
May 6, 2019

# PACE → Middle School Fast Paced Program

- Designed to meet the unique needs of intellectually and academically gifted students
- Many students identified early in elementary school, but may no longer be right fit for all subjects
- Students developing other passions, have other time commitments

# Middle School Fast Paced Program

- Language Arts - 90 mins/day, grades 6-8
- Mathematics - 45 mins/day, grades 6-8
- Science\* - 45 mins/day, grades 7-8
  - \*Students must be enrolled in Fast Paced Math and must be strong Language Arts students to take Fast Paced Science.
  - Strong language arts skills are necessary for success in High School Honors Biology in 8th grade.
  - Strong math skills are necessary for Physics in 10th grade.

# Language Arts & Math - PACE v. FPLA/FPM

## 5th Grade **PACE Language Arts**

- 30 minutes ***enrichment*** per day during 90 minute regular language arts period
- Main focus - reading and discussion of higher level text

## 5th Grade **PACE Math**

- 60 minutes ***full replacement***

## **FPLA** 6, 7, 8

- Full ***replacement*** of regular 90 minute language arts block
- Complex texts and analysis
- Greater focus on vocabulary, writing and grammar
- 2 year acceleration

## **Fast Paced Math** 6, 7, 8

- 45 minutes ***full replacement***
- 2 year acceleration in 7th & 8th
- *Tutors should not be needed*

# Language Arts - ELA v. FPLA

## ELA or FPLA @ Edison

- 6th: ELA 6 or FPLA 6
- 7th: ELA 7 or FPLA 7
- 8th: ELA 8 or FPLA 8

## A-Level English @ WWS

- 9th: Freshman English (A)
- 10th: Sophomore English (A)
- 11th: Junior English (A)
- 12th: AP English Electives

*Note:*

*In high school, high-achieving students in regular ELA are enrolled in the same A-Level English class as FPLA students.*

*FPLA is a more rigorous course for those who truly **ENJOY** the challenge of reading and interpreting complex texts, developing higher level vocabulary, and pushing themselves to improve their research, grammar and essay writing skills.*

## Regular Math 6, 7, Honors Algebra

- 6th: Common Core Math 6
- 7th: Common Core Math 7
- 8th: High School Honors Algebra (A)\*

## Fast Paced Math

- 6th: Common Core Math 7
- 7th: High School Honors Algebra 1 (A)\*
- 8th: High School Honors Geometry (A)\*

## Accelerated Math @ WWS

- 9th: Geometry (A)
- 10th: Algebra 2 & Trigonometry (A)
- 11th: Precalculus (A)
- 12th: AP Calculus AB/BC and/or AP Statistics

## Accelerated Math @ WWS

- 9th: Algebra 2 & Trigonometry (A)
- 10th: Precalculus (A)
- 11th: AP Calculus BC
- 12th: AP Statistics

### ***\*High School A-Level Expectations:***

***Independent, proactive learners who take ownership of their learning, ENJOY working with peers to think critically and problem solve, and demonstrate original and creative thinking in class discussions and assignments.***

## Science

- 6th: Science 6
- 7th: Science 7
- 8th: Science 8

## Science @ WWS

- 9th: Biology (A)
- 10th: Chemistry (A)
- 11th: Physics (A)
- 12th: AP Science Elective(s) (A)

## Fast Paced Science

- 6th: Science 6
- 7th: FP Science 7
- 8th: High School Honors Biology (A)\*

## Accelerated Science @ WWS

- 9th: Chemistry (A)
- 10th: Physics (A)
- 11th: AP Science Elective (A)
- 12th: AP Science Elective (A)

# Social Studies

## @ Edison

- Social Studies 6 - World History: 500-1500 AD
- Social Studies 7 - U.S. History: 13 Colonies - Civil War and Restoration
- Social Studies 8 - U.S. History: Constitution, Industrialization - Civil Rights

## @ WWS

- 9th - AP Human Geography, World Civ. (A)
- 10th - AP U.S. History
- 11th - AP Government
- 12th - AP Economics, AP European History, AP Psychology



# 8th Grade Electives

- 4 semester electives OR
- 2 full year electives OR
- 2 semester electives AND 1 full year elective

*What are your child's interests and passions?  
That's what s/he should pursue! There is no  
single "right" path for students who qualify for  
FP classes!*

## Semester Electives

- Art
- Automation and Robotics
- Digital Authorship
- Entrepreneurship
- Performance Seminar

## Full Year Electives

- Band
- Chorus
- Orchestra
- High School Level French 1
- High School Level Spanish 1

# Middle School Curriculum

<http://www.cusd200.org>

> Departments > Student Learning > Curriculum > Middle School Curriculum

The screenshot shows the top portion of the website. At the top is a navigation bar with a search icon, a star icon, and various utility icons. Below this is a red navigation bar with the following links: District, Select a Site..., Site Manager, My Account, My PassKeys, Translate Page To..., HOME, ABOUT US, ADMINISTRATION, BOARD OF EDUCATION, REFERENDUM & ENGAGEMENT, DEPARTMENTS, PARENTS & STUDENTS, and STAFF. The main header features the District 200 logo with the tagline "Inspiring Excellence", the district name "Community Unit School District 200", and the address "130 West Park Avenue, Wheaton, IL 60189". It also includes contact information: "P: 630.682.2000" and "F: 630.682.2227". To the right are icons for a calendar, email, and user profile. The tagline "Inspiring in everyone a passion to excel" is positioned at the bottom right of the header.

## Curriculum

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ Kindergarten Programs & Curriculum
- ▶ Elementary Curriculum
- ▶ Middle School Curriculum
- ▶ High School Curriculum
- ▶ Homework Recommendations
- ▶ Library Learning Center
- ▶ Expanding Learning Opportunities (eLo)

Community Unit School District 200 > Departments > Curriculum > Middle School Curriculum

## Middle School Curriculum

### Sixth Grade

[English/Language Arts](#)

[Math 6](#)

[Fast Paced Math](#)

[Social Studies](#)

[Science](#)

[Health](#)

[Physical Education](#)

[Band](#)

[Drama](#)

[Orchestra](#)

[Collaboration and Leadership](#)

[Foundations](#)

[Visual Arts](#)

[Vocal Music](#)

### Seventh Grade

[English/Language Arts](#)

[Math 7](#)

[Fast Paced Honors Algebra 1](#)

[Science](#)

[Fast Pace Science](#)

[Health](#)

[Physical Education](#)

[Band](#)

[Orchestra](#)

[Digital Literacy](#)

# PACE Myth

**MYTH:** Students must be in Fast Paced courses in middle school in order to take A-level or AP classes in high school.

**FACT:** High achieving students in regular middle school classes are recommended for -- *and well prepared for* -- advanced courses at the high school level.

# Social & Emotional Realities

Gifted students often experience:

- Anxiety
- Perfectionism
- Stress
- Issues with peer relationships
- Concerns with identity and fit

Important to note:

- A child gifted in one area may not be gifted in another
- No two gifted children are alike
- **Parents and teachers must model balance and help reduce stress/anxiety**
- We can teach strategies and provide tools for dealing with SEL concerns

## Social & Emotional Learning Core Competencies



All teachers, regardless of level, weave these SEL skills into daily coursework.

# Executive Functioning (EF)

- Organizing papers
- Writing down assignments
- Taking notes
- Studying
- Writing with structure

***Gifted children are often more likely to encounter these struggles than other students.***

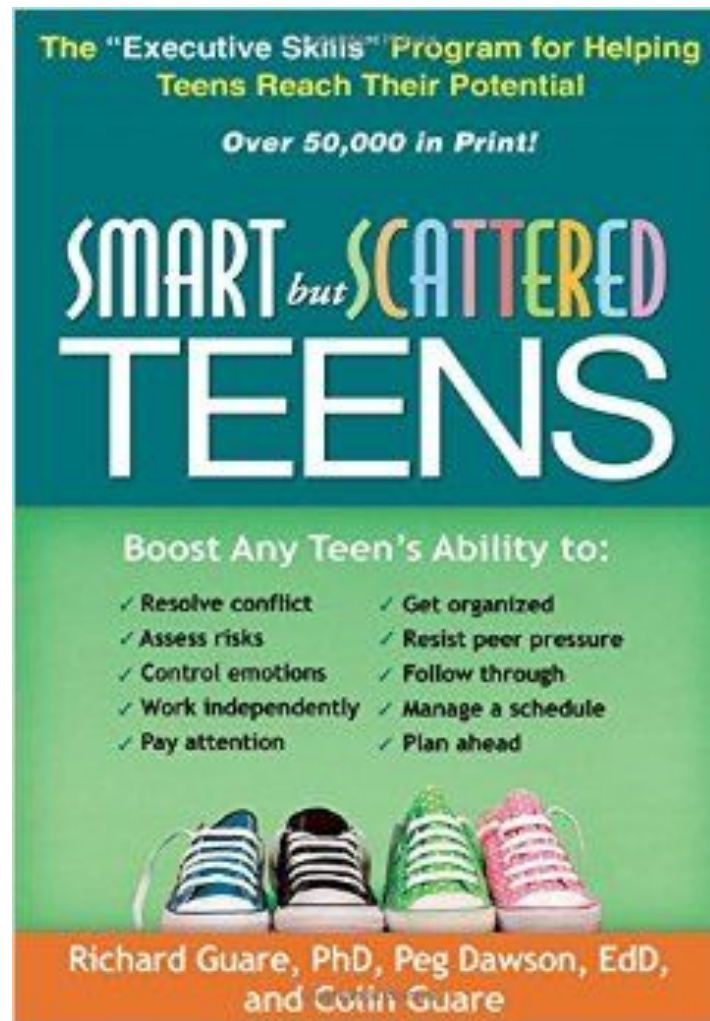
Why? Initially gifted children find learning and school to be very easy. If you are able to easily understand your lessons, memorize the key details, and recall them later, there is little motivation to develop a set of study skills.

But middle school is harder! Many gifted students hit **“the wall”** in middle school.

<https://nurturingwisdom.com/is-executive-functioning-the-missing-link-for-many-gifted-students/>

# Book Recommendation

If your child struggles with Executive Functioning Skills, this is an excellent resource.





THERE IS NO  
PATH TO  
HAPPINESS:  
HAPPINESS IS  
THE PATH.

BUDDHA

[culturetrip.com](https://theculturetrip.com)

If your student looks forward to his/her Fast Paced classes and **finds joy** in them, FP is a good fit.

If he/she dreads the class(es) or is experiencing extreme stress, anxiety or frustration, a different path may be better at this time.

It's more than okay to mix and match FP and regular courses, especially if your child has other passions and interests such as sports and the performing arts.

Help your child find the right balance so s/he can be appropriately challenged but happy, not stressed and anxious.



# Questions? Concerns?

Please email or call the counseling office

***by JUNE 11.***

Mr. Tim Hower

630-682-2053

[timothy.hower@cusd200.org](mailto:timothy.hower@cusd200.org)