

* quarter 2 newsletter

FROM THE MCPS GIFTED ED DEPT.

WHAT IS...?

We all use all sorts of jargon in lingo in education. Here are some key ideas that support learners of all levels.

extensions aim to extend the learning in the lesson to make it more challenging

enrichment encourages students to take a more expansive or in-depth look at a concept or topic

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN GIFTED ED?

- Defined Learning is up and running in MCPS! DL is a project-based learning platform, where students are challenged to engage in critical and creative thinking while creating a product that extends their learning experience.
- In quarter 1, there were over 1,200 active engagements in the district between students and staff on the Defined Learning platform!
- Watch for an email from Shirley if you'd like to be a part of a short, 30-minute virtual training regarding Defined Learning and project-based learning.

How can I utilize Defined Learning in my classroom?

- Want to get started using Defined Learning? **Start here!**
- Once you've accessed your account and feel ready to include your students, follow **these steps** to create a classroom and assigned projects.
- Teachers are finding success by first identifying a standard where a high-ability learner or learners could use challenge in. Select a project for them based on the standards aligned with the project.
- These projects can also be done class-wide, then you have the opportunity to differentiate the end product and assign projects outcomes based on individual needs.
- Check in with students throughout the process to see their enrichment come to fruition. Once students get started, the process is mostly independent, but this is also a great tool for small, differentiated skill-groups.
- Feel free to out to Braelyne at blshell@mcpsmt.org to receive further support.

HIGHLIGHTED RESOURCES

Use this **link** to directly access the MCPS Gifted Education Library Catalog. This is helpful in finding materials you may want to implement within your classroom, and are free to you within our district! Any teacher can borrow these materials, you do not have to have an identified student to access this catalog and materials.

There are hundreds of resources available, ranging from games, to books, to activities!