

# CONTACT

### HAL PROGRAMMING

Beginning at grade 3, High Ability Learner students incorporate the core curriculum of the classroom with a differentiated curriculum and additional activities.

Prior to Grade 3, High Ability Learners are nurtured through differentiated curriculum and enrichment activities.

Shannon Hall-Schmeckpeper
Special Services Director
shannon.hallschmeckpeper@sewardschools.org

Dr. Josh Fields Superintendent

- +402.643.2941
- 9 410 South Street Seward, NE 68434
- www.sewardpublicschools.org

#### SEWARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Seward High School +402.643.2988

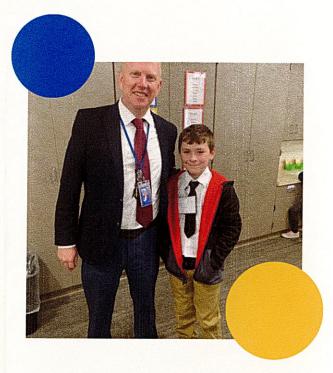
Seward Middle School +402.643.2986

Seward Elementary +402.643.2968

Shannon Hall-Schmeckpeper assists families, administrators, educators, and teams in the development of programs that fit students' high ability learning needs. Please contact Shannon with any questions regarding the HAL program.

# HIGH ABILITY LEARNER PROGRAMMING

**DIVISION OF SPECIAL SERVICES** 



www.sewardpublicschools.org

**EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION** 

Enriching the learning opportunities for every student

# HAL PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The program seeks to achieve excellence by building upon the strengths and the interests of the students and by focusing on the delivery of four major services to the students:

- \* Identifying student's academic strengths, interests, and learning styles
  - \* Differentiation of curriculum content
    - \* General exploratory activities
- \* Group activities that develop high level of thinking and affective processes
- \* Individual and small group investigation of real problems

"We believe that children learn best when they are challenged and nurtured in methods that are commensurate with the levels of their abilities. It is the responsibility of the school to facilitate and/or provide opportunities to meet the needs of each of our students."



## **IDENTIFICATION**



The District-wide Leadership Team facilitates identification and implementation of the High Ability Learner Program for the High Ability Learner. The Leadership Team consists of Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers, and the Special Services Director, The identification process includes multiple criteria in an effort to be inclusive rather than exclusive. The process is based on a combination of standardized instruments and nonstandardized means and criteria. Nominations for the High Ability Learner Program are received early October of each academic year in the Special Services Office. Following the receipt of the nominations, the Leadership Team reviews all supporting materials for possible identification. Nominees are considered for HAL designation in Mathematics, Language Arts, Science, and Art.



#### **ACTIVITIES**

Below is a sampling of student activities that the Seward Public Schools' High Ability Learner Program has supported over the past few years:

- \* Attendance at the University of Nebraska Lincoln Math Day
- \* Participation in the Images of Greatness Program
- \* Art Mentorship class offering
- \* Participation in the MAA American Mathematics competitions
  - \* Participation on multiple
    Quiz Bowl teams at the
    Middle School and High School
- \* Attendance at the GFWS Nebraska Federation of Woman's Clubs Leadership Conference
- \* Participation in the Nebraska
  Academic Decathlon Competition
- \* Middle School Science Olympiad

