

## Activities

Below is a sampling of student activities that 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

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School District of Seward

Division of  
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High Ability Learner  
(HAL) Programming

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## Seward Public School - HAL Program Philosophy -

## Identification

“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.”

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

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 non-standardized 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.



## Programming

Beginning at grade 3, High Ability Learner students incorporate the core curriculum of the classroom with a differentiated curriculum/activities. Prior to Grade 3, High Ability Learners are nurtured through differentiated curriculum and enrichment activities.