

Why CBG?

Your student is about to enter the exciting world of middle school. Sixth grade is a big transition from elementary school. There are eight different classes to manage, lockers, hallways jammed with students, and a bit more freedom. The CBG program provides a rigorous academic environment that challenges students to become independent thinkers and to learn to believe in themselves. Students are encouraged to develop self-motivation and independence in order to become life-long learners.

The Program

The CBG program is very product oriented. Throughout the year, teachers will assign projects in every subject, and students will have many opportunities to make choices on the content or delivery of their work. Because gifted learners do not need repetition to learn material, the program curriculum is compacted. Students learn best by doing.

The goal of each core teacher is to provide students challenging assignments that stretch minds and tap into each student's creativity. The program curriculum will push students to advocate for a proposed project concept, to work in matrix teams, to organize materials, and to meet deadlines.

Your child's core CBG teachers:

Language Arts	Mrs. Deborah Cook
Math	Mrs. Michele Utz
Science	Mrs. Stephanie Estes
	Ms. Anne Moore
Social Studies	Mr. Michael McEwen



Q & A

Q: What is ASE?

A: ASE (Academic Skills Enrichment) is a graded class. Students select two enrichment topics at the beginning of the year, depending on availability. The ASE class is divided up into three sections:

- **CREW:** time for students to get help from teachers, work on projects with peers, or catch up on research.
- **SSR** (Sustained Silent Reading): quiet time for reading books or magazines of interest to the student.
- **ENRICHMENT:** time for one of the ASE offerings. Depending on the teacher, subjects may include Biz World, Knowledge Masters Open (KMO), and Venturer Times (student newspaper).

Q: Is my child ready for a high school world language course and/or double-acceleration in math?

A: A student's maturity and interest level play heavily into making these decisions. ***Factor into your decision the student's organization and time management skills.*** There are two options for world language: the International Language (IL) course that provides students with an overview of different languages and a high school Level I of a world language. Students who opt for Level I must be motivated to study nightly and to prepare for semester examinations.

Math double-acceleration is for those students with good math "sense" and a love of math. ***Many students are capable of double-acceleration but are not prepared to tackle the rigor of double-acceleration, especially if opting to take a world language.***

Q: What is the block schedule?

A: CBG students operate on an alternating block schedule. They take four classes each day. Classes are listed as even or odd. Over a two-day period, students will take eight classes: ASE, language arts, math, science, social studies, a form of world language, physical education, and an elective.

Q: What happens when my child is absent?

A: Students are expected to make up missed work in a timely manner. Each teacher maintains a specific place in their classroom to turn in late work or to obtain materials on missed assignments. Teachers have varying policies on late work, so **students** should check immediately upon returning to school

Q: What is a rubric?

A: Rubrics are important roadmaps for the successful completion of assigned projects. Students receive rubrics from teachers at the time of assignment, and all rubrics have specific requirements that must be followed by the student. Rubrics are also posted on Edline. Students should always check their rubrics before handing in an assignment.

Expectations

Students and parents should understand that the Robious CBG program is designed to challenge students to think independently and to make choices. Many students enter middle school with modest time management and study skills. Students can expect to spend about 20 minutes per night studying each subject. The CBG environment is designed to help students reach their potential by developing unique strategies to achieve academic and personal success. Teachers expect that their students will learn to manage academic requirements, while participating in social, extramural, and family activities.



The Parent, Student, Teacher Triangle

The Robious CBG program is an effective learning environment when there is a strong partnership between the parent, the student, and the teacher. Parents should remember that a middle school student is still in need of guidance at home as the transition to middle school is not always an easy one. ***The Edline website helps bridge the gap between home and school; parents and students are encouraged to check the Edline websites on a weekly basis.*** All teachers respond to email and welcome communications from parents.

Keeping a calendar at home listing all upcoming project deadlines is recommended, especially when making family commitments.

Keep the lines of communication open

Use an agenda or planner
Check the rubrics
Visit Edline weekly
Sign up for Edline notifications
Attend conferences
Attend REBO parent meetings

Gifted Resources:

ABC's of Gifted

<http://www.nagc.org/index.aspx?id=956>

What is giftedness?

<http://www.nagc.org/index.aspx?id=574&ir>

National Association for Gifted Children

www.nagc.org

Virginia Association for Gifted Children

www.vagifted.org

Parenting for High Potential

<http://www.nagc.org/index.aspx?id=1180>

Resource Directory provided by the National Association for Gifted Children

<http://www.nagc.org/resourcedirectory.aspx>

More resource links are on the REBO website:

www.cbgms.org

Robious CBG

What Every Parent and Student Should Know



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Javaid Siddiqi ~ Principal
Robin Forbes ~ CBG Coordinator
Martha Turner ~ Guidance
Michael McEwen ~ Team Leader
Samantha Marrs ~ REBO Chair



Robious Explorers Booster Organization
www.cbgms.org