

**GATE PROGRAM**  
**NEIL ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**GRADES 3 ~ 5**

**VISION OF THE GATE PROGRAM**

If we teach children everything we know, their knowledge is limited to ours. If we teach children to think, their knowledge is *limitless*.

Michael Baker, President - The Critical Thinking Mind

**CREATING A CULTURE OF LIFELONG LEARNERS**

- ❖ Develop an environment which emphasizes “No fear of failure”
- ❖ Develop and answer questions by analyzing, evaluating, connecting, applying and reflecting the given information across all curricular areas
- ❖ Justify opinions with reasons and/or text-based evidence
- ❖ Respect one another during the discussion process when listening to points of view that differ from their own
- ❖ Self-reflect when all points of discussion have been completed
- ❖ Think efficiently and write concisely to express their perspective
- ❖ Develop a learning continuum of critical thinking skills that will develop throughout each subsequent grade level
- ❖ Develop an environment which meets each child’s educational needs so exceptional achievement in school will continue to flourish and offer the best chance for each child to reach their full potential

**CURRICULUM**

- ❖ Innovative project-based learning with technology
- ❖ District purchased ELA, Math, SS and Science curricula will be used and supplemented with gifted resources and activities provided by the gifted coach
- ❖ Supplemental critical thinking activities will be infused into the curriculum

**STUDENT PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS**

Students recommended for the GATE Program are expected to exhibit exemplary work habits and study skills; complete assignments in a timely manner, sustain high levels of involvement in activities; and maintain a quarterly grade point average of 3.0 in core subjects. e.g. Reading, Math, Language Arts, Composition, Social studies, Science, Health, and Spelling. Those students who fall below the required 3.0 average, will be placed in a probationary status for the next grading period while still participating in the GATE classes. If at the end of that time, the student achieves a 3.0 grade point average, the probationary status will be lifted. If the student does not meet the required 3.0 G.P.A., he/she will be dropped from the program and will be required to requalify for admittance for the following school year. The student would then return to his/her home school for the remainder of the academic year.