Roberto Clemente Middle School

Upcounty Center Program for the Highly Gifted

Humanities and Communication and Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science

for Grades 6 through 8



18808 Waring Station Road Germantown, MD 20874 301-601-0381

Applications available at: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clementems or www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms





Program, Students, and Staff

The Roberto Clemente Middle School Center offers two rigorous programs of academic study to highly gifted students from the upper portion of Montgomery County. Both programs feature an interdisciplinary approach in multiple subject areas. Students may apply to both programs, but may only participate in one.

Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science

Students will study accelerated and enriched units in mathematics. The mathematics courses will include Pre-algebra, Algebra, and Geometry/Algebra 2 topics. The primary focus will be on problem solving and using mathematics as a tool for communication. It is recommended that applicants successfully complete Math 6 by the end of Grade 5.

The science curriculum focuses on various aspects of life science, earth science, and physical science over the course of three years. Specific topics are selected to reinforce mathematics concepts. Interdisciplinary mini-units and culminating activities accentuate the interlocking nature of the mathematics and science disciplines. Students learn various techniques for gathering, processing, analyzing, and presenting data.

The computer science courses focus on the use of the computer as a tool for problem solving in other subjects. Students learn to collect, manipulate, graph, and analyze data using the computer. They develop algorithms, write programs in various structured programming languages, and use commercial software to solve problems. Only in the center program can students in the upcounty area get three full years of daily computer science instruction.

Humanities and Communication

The Humanities and Communication Center provides unique and challenging learning opportunities. Designed around a strong interdisciplinary humanities program, this center focuses on developing students' ability to use language and media effectively to present results of their academic inquiry within the Montgomery County Public Schools Program of Studies.

Students will have hands-on opportunities to work as members of production teams in Clemente's media studios. Working with a process-oriented, product-based curriculum, students will gain skills as performers, camera operators, producers, directors, audio engineers, editors, and graphic artists. In addition to television, students also work with other media such as print, radio, video, and digital multimedia.

The World Studies curriculum provides the framework for the humanities center program. Students will make cross-cultural connections by analyzing forces that lead to cultural change and continuity. Students will develop an understanding of historical events that will later lead to problem-solving tasks with real-world issues.

The program also offers students intensive courses in writing and opportunities for their finest writing products to be published and broadcast. Students use computer labs to draft, edit, and polish their work to publication quality. They incorporate their writing skills with those learned in other classes to create such works as position papers, plays, and print media.

Student Qualities

The two center programs are designed for highly able students who desire to be further challenged academically and are ready to be actively involved in their own learning with a group of their intellectual peers. Students in both programs exhibit a high level of curiosity, analytical thinking, and imagination.

Faculty

Teachers in the center programs have been selected for their strong academic backgrounds, outstanding teaching skills, and interest and commitment to working with highly able students.

Admissions

Admission to the Roberto Clemente Center Program is very competitive. Highly motivated, gifted, and talented students are encouraged to apply. Criteria used to evaluate candidates include teacher recommendations, written statements from candidates and their parents, previous grades and course work, test scores, and cocurricular interests and achievements.

Students who are not invited to attend the program may request a review of the decision.

Transportation

Transportation is provided to and from Roberto Clemente Middle School from central locations. Activity buses are provided Tuesday through Thursday.

Directions to Roberto Clemente Middle School

From 270, North: Exit onto Middlebrook Road going west. Turn left onto Waring Station Road. Follow to school on right.

From 270, South: Exit onto Germantown Road (Rte. 118) going west. Turn left onto Middlebrook Road. Turn right onto Waring Station Road and follow to school on right.

Application Packets

Applications are due in the late fall of Grade 5

Grade 5 students interested in applying to either program in the Roberto Clemente Upcounty Middle School Center for the Highly Gifted may obtain the application packet in the following ways:

- Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms or www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clementems
- Contact your local school principal or counselor
- Call or write:

Douglas Nelson, Center Coordinator Robert Clemente Middle School 18808 Waring Station Road Germantown, MD 20874 Phone: 301-601-0381

Timeline

For our information meetings, application and testing dates please visit our websites

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clementems or www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms



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