



# Middle Township Elementary No. 1

215 Eldredge Road  
Cape May Court House, New Jersey 08210-2499  
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CHRISTIAN PASKALIDES  
Principal

DONALD ROBERTSON  
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

All children have unique strengths and talents and require opportunities to learn, grow, and be challenged to strive for excellence. Some children have intellectual skills and abilities that significantly differ in degree and dimension from their chronological age peers and, therefore, require the challenge of a differentiated curriculum both in depth and scope in order to provide them with the opportunity to maximize their potential. As such, Elementary #1 offers a gifted and talented program for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.

Throughout the first marking period, we will be collecting data and reviewing multiple measures. The multiple measures will vary depending upon grade level, but will include such items as reading levels, STAR assessment results, benchmark results, and classroom assessments. Teachers will have the opportunities to identify students in their classes, however, we would also like to extend the opportunity for parents/guardians to nominate students to ensure a thorough process.

While, there are many types of giftedness, we are currently only able to provide support in mathematics and language arts in grades 1 and 2. Space will be limited. Therefore, we will be focusing on students working above grade level in one or both of these two content areas. Completing the nomination does not ensure acceptance into the gifted and talented program offered for your child's grade level, however, it will provide important preliminary information to the screening committee. It will also help to identify students who may not currently be working above their grade level peers, but would benefit from more enhanced instruction enriched within the general education classroom.

Resources as well as the parent nomination forms can be located on the school's website. Should you choose to complete a nomination form, please be certain to return the form to your child's teacher no later than Friday, October 13, 2017. **Please be aware that prior participation in the GT program does not guarantee entry into the program this year.** A student must be nominated by a teacher and/or parent in order to be considered.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at 463-1900.

Sincerely,

Christian J. Paskalides  
Principal