

SMART GOALS FOR ALPS

We use SMART Goals in the Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) to inspire students toward new levels of learning and growth.

- SMART Goals provide clear instructional and affective guidance each year, and they provide a measure of where we believe the student will progress as a result of programming.
- SMART Goals should be **Specific** and have a clear INDICATOR (such as a standard, benchmark, or skill) that will be emphasized for learning and growth.
- SMART Goals are **Measurable** and set an expectation toward a higher level of performance.
- They should be **Attainable** and expand the match between student profile and programming in reasonable steps.
- SMART Goals are **Realistic** and contain a target or end-point for guiding ANNUAL learning and growth. For example, realistic long term targets for gifted students in the area of strength is two years or more.
- Finally, SMART Goals have a **Time Frame** for accomplishing the measurable target or growth expectation.

Where do you start when writing SMART Goals for gifted students?

- First, review the student data collected in his or her profile. Find time to collaborate with the student, parent(s), other teachers who work with the student, and/or the Gifted Education Specialist to discuss and develop the student's goals.
- Ask:
- What are the strengths of the student?
- What indicators are most relevant?
- What assessment tool will help us judge student growth and progress?
- What is a realistic target for the student to strive for in one year?
- What type of acceleration options, instructional strategies, or materials/resources will be needed to best meet the student's needs?

It is important to not only develop a goal surrounding the student's learning and growth in their strength area, but to also consider the affective or social-emotional needs of the student and develop a SMART goal for those needs as well.