



Feb. 8, 2018

Dear Parents of Third Grade Students,

As we look forward to your child's fourth grade year, we want to let you know about a program for fourth, fifth, and sixth graders you may want to consider. The district sponsors a full-time program for students who benefit from an accelerated learning pace called C.A.S. (The Center for Accelerated Studies). This program is offered at two sites: Sunset View Elementary for students in the Provo High boundaries and Provo Peaks Elementary for those in the Timpview High boundaries. We will be holding C.A.S. Open Houses at each site for those parents and students who may be interested in learning more. You are invited to attend the Open House in your area.

For students in the Timpview High boundaries:

Provo Peaks Elementary; 665 E. Center St.; Tuesday, February 20 from 3:30-4:30

For students in the Provo High boundaries:

Sunset View Elementary; 1520 W. 600 S.; Thursday, February 22th from 3:30-4:30

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers about CAS:

Who can apply to CAS?

Parents of prospective fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students can apply for their children. Once a student is accepted into the program, they are placed for all remaining elementary school years.

What does the application require?

The CAS application includes a student information form, a parent letter, a student survey, a teacher reference email (the email address of a teacher who we will contact for a reference letter), and a CoGAT exam score.

How do I apply for my child to attend CAS?

Parents apply online at the following link: <https://goo.gl/cDGgh9>

Application opens on Feb. 20, 2018. The first round of acceptance letters will be sent by March 10, 2018. The application link will be open until the classes are filled.

How can I have my child take the required CoGAT exam?

The CoGAT test will be offered in each Provo City School District elementary school for those students whose parents have signed up for their child to take the exam. Teachers may also recommend testing. It is a computer-based test that takes about 2 hours. Sign up for your child to take the test at the following link: <https://goo.gl/Q7ixsD>

Is CAS a pull-out program?

No, CAS places students in an accelerated classroom for the entire school day.

Can my child receive other accelerated services in our regular, boundary school?

Yes. Every school has opportunities for accelerated students to learn at high levels. Contact your school's principal to discuss the options for your child.

Who benefits from a CAS classroom?

Students who enjoy being challenged and learning at an accelerated pace often excel in CAS classes. Sometimes high performing students who feel socially awkward in school have developed social skills and peer relationships not seen before. Here is one parent's report about her child's experience in CAS--it is typical of many CAS parents' responses:

[C.A.S] has captured the interest of my child and increased her love of learning. I love that my daughter's confidence and self-esteem have improved. She is exemplifying the "growth mindset." The main reason I wanted her in CAS is because of the content of the academics that would be offered. So many good things have come from CAS.

Does the district bus students to CAS sites?

Unfortunately, no. The state does not fund transportation services for parent choice programs such as CAS and Dual Language Immersion. In some cases, parents have coordinated carpools to CAS sites.

If I have a child in CAS, can my other children attend the school, as well?

In many cases, yes. As in other school choice instances, parents need to apply for this boundary exception to the Student Services department at the Provo City School District offices (280 West 940 North). This is done separately from the CAS application.

How can I get more information?

The CAS Open Houses provide parents and students a chance to learn about the program. Additionally, questions can be answered by contacting:

Dr. Karen Brock, Director of Accelerated Programs, 801-374-4850 karenbr@provo.edu
Rena Deighton, Assistant to Dr. Brock, 801-374-4852 renaed@provo.edu

Thank you for reading this information. We encourage you to consider whether CAS is a good fit for your child.

Sincerely,

Dr. Karen Brock
Provo City School District
Teaching & Learning Department