

## **HIGH-ABILITY SERVICES GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

### **PHILOSOPHY**

All students need opportunities to learn at an appropriate pace and depth. High-ability individuals demonstrate outstanding aptitude well above the mean, and services for these children should include learning events geared to their talents. The aim of high-ability programming within the school corporation is to cultivate individual potential for becoming independent and self-directed, for thinking critically, and for developing rich understanding. The intellectual and emotional needs of high-ability students may be met by providing acceleration of course content and pace of instruction, deepening study of subjects beyond grade-level expectations, and employing teaching strategies and curriculum suited to their specific abilities.

### **GOALS**

In order for students to utilize their potentials, the goals of specialized programming include:

- Assisting students as they implement their intellectual and creative aptitudes through a variety of challenging instructional activities.
- Creating an environment that will encourage self-worth, compassion for others and their ideas, and a positive self-image.
- Guiding students in achieving greater independence and effectiveness in learning.
- Providing an opportunity for students with similar abilities, interests, and talents to interact and share ideas.
- Operating a classroom which promotes the development of critical, analytical, divergent, and evaluative thinking skills through differentiated, interdisciplinary, and enriched curriculum.
- Offering a setting for students to utilize their talents, initiatives, self-direction, and originality in developing strategies to deal with problems.