

Anchorage School District

Gifted Education

5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd. • Anchorage, AK 99504 • 907-742-3795 • http://www.asdk12.org/giftedprogram

Dear Parent or Guardian.

My name is Henry Ferguson, and I am the Anchorage School District Behavioral Strategist. My services are provided for K-12 gifted and highly gifted students that are underachieving. These gifted students encounter issues at home and/or at school that impede their ability to prioritize education and cause them to underachieve and sometimes fail in school. As the behavioral strategist/counselor, my services are dedicated to the gifted population. I work with students at all levels throughout the district. These students come from diverse populations and speak many different languages.

My services start when a referral arrives at my office. The referral has forty items of concern for parents, teachers, specialists, counselors and principals. These provide insight into why a student struggles and why they need my services. These students may suffer from either obvious or hidden disabilities or obstacles that can cause poor academic performance.

I work with parents, teachers, principals, and counselors to provide strategies and services until the student graduates. The strategies used are tailored for each individual student to recover from underachieving, academic and social-emotional setbacks. My strategies include, but are not limited to, finding out if the student has appropriate curriculum and content. My goal is to make sure gifted students do not become bored and frustrated with assignments and tasks they have already mastered. As the Behavior Strategist, I want to effectively address those concerns to help students reach their potential and achieve the appropriate academic performance. I want to support these students so they will make a difference in the future.

Henry Ferguson ASD Behavioral Strategist