



Free/Reduced Meal Application

We ask all families to complete the Free/Reduced Meal Application. This enables families to receive discounts to Extended-Day school programs and discounts to college entrance exams. Forms are available at the front office in the Baseline building. Upon completion, we will inform you immediately of your eligibility status.

Meals/Food Brought from Home

Paideia *cannot accommodate meals that require heating or reheating*. Microwaves are OFF LIMITS to scholars. Scholars sent with a home-provided meal must be ready for them to eat without requiring additional preparations.

Snacks – Help your scholar do well at school!

Can your scholar’s diet help them do better in school? You bet! Research shows that what you eat is one of the most powerful influences on everyday brain skills. We encourage families to send healthy snacks to school with their scholars. We allow healthy snacks to be eaten sometime between breakfast and lunch and/or before the end of the day. Snacks are an essential part of the learning day!

Nutrition research shows that ***eating small portions*** between breakfast and lunch and then between lunch and dinner is beneficial to overall health. We have found that several parents send healthy snacks to school with their scholars. We applaud you!

Healthy Snacks are Encouraged: Unhealthy snacks, such as highly processed foods– (Doritos, Takis, Cheetos) and high sugars snacks (candy, “sports” drinks, sugar drinks) are high in sugar, fat, sodium, dangerous preservatives and other additives. Read the ingredient list – if you can’t pronounce the ingredients, don’t eat it! We discourage these types of junk foods in the classroom with your scholars.

The following is a short list of very healthy snacks that will benefit the health and learning of your scholars.

- Fresh fruit such as apple slices
- Yogurt
- Trail Mix with nuts, seeds, and dried fruit.
- Fresh vegetables such as red peppers, broccoli, carrots, celery
- Whole wheat snacks such as pretzels, crackers and cheese

Nut allergy alert – please notify your scholar’s teacher with a doctor’s note of any nut allergies.

Vending Machine Policy: Scholars are allowed to purchase or consume vending machine products during the school day. All vending machine products have passed the health and nutrition guidelines of Paideia Academy. Vending machines are cash only.

Gifted Program

Arizona State defines a gifted pupil as a pupil who has scored at or above the 97th percentile in one area, or a combination of verbal, nonverbal or quantitative reasoning areas, on a state approved test.



Gifted Scholar Definition:

- A scholar who has been identified as gifted by another district or charter school
- A scholar who has scored at or above the 95th percentile on a state approved test in one or more areas- verbal, nonverbal or quantitative
- A scholar who has scored above the 90th percentiles on a state approved test in one or more areas- verbal, nonverbal or quantitative AND has supportive documentation including, but not limited to:
 - Gifted characteristic checklist
 - Creativity checklist
 - Above the 90th percentile in AIMSweb assessments
 - Above the 90th percentile in NWEA/MAP scores
 - Reading fluency and comprehension 2 years or more above grade level
 - Shows mastery of above level math concepts based on a comprehensive end-of-year grade level math assessment
 - Exceeding grade level standards (grades ES or 4)

Gifted Identification Process:

Scholars may be assessed at Paideia Academy, free of charge, during regularly scheduled testing periods. Evaluations performed by outside, qualified evaluators at the expense of parents or guardians will also be accepted based on the above qualifications.

- 1) Teacher, parent, or scholar submits Gifted Referral Form with supporting documents.
- 2) Referral is reviewed by Gifted Coordinator
 - If insufficient evidence the scholar doesn't qualify and parent is notified
 - If sufficient evidence for giftedness, parent is notified and is asked to sign a permission for testing.
- 3) Scholar is tested using the CogAt test during the next available session.
 - Test results indicate scholar DOES NOT qualify for Gifted Services – parent notified.
 - Test results indicate scholar DOES qualify for services - Gifted Identification form sent home and meeting scheduled to plan for services.
- 4) Gifted Services begin

Gifted Program Services

When a scholar is identified for Gifted Services through the Paideia or outside documentation:

- 1) Gifted Coordinator sets up a meeting with the classroom teacher, parent(s) and scholar to fill out the Gifted Profile Sheet and develop the Individualized Program of Study. A copy is kept in the scholar's leadership Notebook and goals are reviewed throughout the year.
- 2) Scholar begins participating in the services the team chose from the continuum of service options including some or all - enrichment programs, cluster classrooms, acceleration, curriculum compacting, special projects, leadership teams.
- 3) Learning Portfolios are shared with parents and community at Quarterly Celebrations throughout the year.

Gifted scholars are expected to maintain an ongoing Learning Portfolio in conjunction with their leadership Notebook to summarize learning and display growth over the school year. Learning Portfolios along with Leadership Notebooks will be displayed at Quarterly Celebrations. Scholars within the Gifted



program are expected to continue displaying exemplary pro-social behaviors and leadership to the community.