

# EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

## WUSD MISSION:

To engage all of our students in rigorous and relevant learning to maximize their unique talents and abilities and to prepare them for the challenges of the future.

## “My child needs to be challenged! What do I do?”

If you feel your child’s needs are not being met in the regular classroom, do not wait to contact their teacher(s).

- Reach out to your child’s teacher for support and suggestions
- Review the options and opportunities in the TD plan ([www.watertown.k12.wi.us](http://www.watertown.k12.wi.us) Families- Talent Development) Specifically review pages 21-22- (Parent Nomination Form)
- Reach out to the TD Resource Teacher at 920-262-1480 X 5121. The TD Resource teacher is available every 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month (Sept.- May) from 3:20-4:45 at Riverside Middle School.
- We will then help you take the next steps to ensure your son/daughter is receiving the support services he/she needs!

## Current Staff

### Contact Information

Dr. Dave Vitale- Assistant  
Superintendent

Kathy Kennon- District K-12 Talent  
Development Coordinator & Lincoln  
& Lebanon Elementary School  
Resource Teacher

920-262-1480 X 5121

[kennonk@watertown.k12.wi.us](mailto:kennonk@watertown.k12.wi.us)

Support Staff-

Jayne Barta- Schurz Elementary

[bartaj@mywusd.org](mailto:bartaj@mywusd.org)

Danielle Fehring- Douglas  
Elementary

[fehringd@mywusd.org](mailto:fehringd@mywusd.org)

Sue Pochop- Webster Elementary

[pochops@mywusd.org](mailto:pochops@mywusd.org)



# Watertown Unified School District

## Talent Development Information for Families

2018-2020



## **Purpose of the TD Program:**

The WUSD Talent Development Program is a district wide program to ensure that the needs of advanced learners are being met in classrooms across the district at all levels.

## **Beliefs:**

All children have unique talents (academic, music, leadership, artistic) and the responsibility for developing individual talents lies upon classroom teachers, specialists, support staff, administrators, parents, and students.

## **Identification:**

Identification is an ongoing process based on more than a single test score. Our goal is to identify your child for something, rather than as something. We are identifying what they need. Initial referral usually comes from the classroom teacher. Parents can also refer their child for identification using the parent nomination form located in our TD Handbook. If at any time you have questions regarding your child's education, please contact the classroom teacher or the district TD Coordinator.

## **Assessment Data**

The WUSD utilizes a number of pieces of data to help with making decisions regarding extension and enrichment opportunities to students. Some of those pieces of data include the results of the following assessments:

- ✓ STAR (3 times per year)
- ✓ FORWARD (once per year)
- ✓ In Class Summative Assessments (Every 3-4 weeks)
- ✓ Common Formative Assessments (Daily/Weekly)
- ✓ Possible other intellectual tests- if needed

Teachers will monitor the progress of students to make changes in instruction or help students set goals. This responsive approach to learning is at the core of the WUSD philosophy of Talent Development. District staff also review data on a grade level basis three times per year to ensure students are on track to show, at minimum, one year's growth in one year's time.

**Parents are encouraged to direct initial questions about TD services to their child's teacher. Follow up with the TD Coordinator is welcomed and encouraged if parents have continued questions.**

Further information and the formal Talent Development Plan can be found on the WUSD website in the FAMILIES section.  
[www.watertown.k12.wi.us](http://www.watertown.k12.wi.us)

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

**Assistant Superintendent-** Oversees the entire process of the Talent Development Program

**TD Coordinator/Resource Teacher-** Oversees specific student programming and works alongside teachers to provide resources, materials, and ideas for TD.

**Classroom Teachers-** Deliver differentiated instruction and act as an advocate for students in need of extension and/or enrichment opportunities

**TD Support Staff-** Assist in delivering instruction, coordinate enrichment activities, and act as an advocate for students

**Parent Advocate-** As a parent advocate it is important that you stay connected with the classroom teachers. Talking with your child about school is essential and can help guide questions for your child's teacher. Reach out to the TD Coordinator, visit during open office hours, or attend TD meetings.

## **Opportunities for Families:**

WUSD would encourage all families to be active in their child's education. Here are some ways to stay connected:

- Meeting with TD Coordinator during open office hours (Listed on district web site)
- Attend TD meetings (Emails are sent via Skyward with meeting dates and times)
- Communicate with your child's teacher regularly

