

## Advanced Learning Plan - Goals and Opportunities Eighth Grade 2022-2023

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gifted and Talented (GT) students at Boltz Middle School work with GT staff, teachers, and parents to choose goals for their annual Advanced Learning Plan (ALP). ALP goals are a directed way to guide our GT students to follow a passion, make a difference, and/or work towards a personal goal throughout the year.

An ALP is an opportunity driven experience. Therefore, students will get out of their ALP what they put into it. So, we ask that students choose their ALP goal with thought and care. We want them to pick something that they are passionate about. The ALP isn't about extra work, it is about taking advantage of provided opportunities for further growth here at Boltz. To encourage students to explore different options during their time here at Boltz, students may not repeat goals from year to year.

According to the CDE, a GT student must choose an Achievement ALP and an Affective ALP goal each year. Students will be paired with a teacher to check in and discuss their goals with. If a goal requires students to complete a reflection and/or a Final Learning Product, these are due to Ms. Londenberg by Friday, April 28. Students will present their Final Learning Products at GT Night on Thursday, May 4. Look through the choices with your student and choose their goals for the year. It is important that students and parents work together in choosing a goal, however, please allow your students to choose their own path. Email me if you have any questions.

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### **Achievement Goals (Choose 1)**

- Advanced Math (General Intellectual or Math)** - This goal is for students who want to continue to push themselves in their advanced math class by focusing on the Standards for Mathematical Practice. Students will start this goal by selecting a Standard for Mathematical Practice to focus on. When students feel confident in the standard they chose, they may choose a new standard at the next goal check in.
  - To complete the ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product that is a Reflection Paper. No presentation is needed for this goal at GT Night in May. However, students are still expected to attend GT Night as a Student Ambassador to help evaluate other GT presenters, guide parents, and serve snacks.
  
- Get Involved in a Boltz Activity (Any GT ID)** - In order to grow collaboration skills, students will get involved in at least one activity this school year. Students will work hard to reach outside their comfort zone, get to know new people, and gain new skills. If students are interested in joining an activity outside of Boltz, they must get it approved by Ms. Londenberg when setting their goal.
  - Activities include sports (tennis, soccer, track, etc.), clubs (Chess Club, Lego Robotics, ASL Club, Spectrum Club), other activities (Musical Theater, Science Olympiad, Odyssey of the Mind), etc.
  - To complete the ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product that shows how participation in that group improved collaboration skills. The format of this product is entirely up to the student and will be presented by the student at GT Night in May.
  
- Enter a Writing Contest (General Intellectual, Reading, or Creativity)** - This goal is for students who love creative writing and want to grow their writing skills. Students will independently write ONE original piece in any genre (ex: a poem, short story, narrative, etc.). Students will submit proof that they entered the contest (ex: a screenshot of my online application to the contest, a hard copy of the application, etc.) and submit their creative writing piece to Ms. Londenberg.
  - To complete this ALP, students must submit their original piece of writing to at least one writing contest by the end of April. No presentation is needed for this goal at GT Night in May. However, students are still expected to attend GT Night as a Student Ambassador to help evaluate other GT presenters, guide parents, and serve snacks.

**40 Book Challenge (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students who love to read. Students with this goal will participate in the 40 Book Challenge with the full intent of completing ALL 40 books by the end of April.

- To complete this ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product that includes their 40 Book Reading Log and a reflection of the experience. Students will present their Final Learning Product at GT Night in May.

**Learning a New Language (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students enrolled in German or Spanish this school year. This goal is designed for those who show an interest and strength in learning a new language. Students with this goal do not necessarily need any extra programming for this ALP - they simply want to focus on being an active participant in a language class this year.

- To complete this ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product that demonstrates how they grew in the new language and how learning this language helped them grow as a person. Students may use example work from class for this Final Product. The Final Product will be presented by the students at GT Night in May.

**Geek Squad (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students who are innovative, inventive, and love working with technology. Students will use technology as a platform to create something (ex: video game, short film, short documentary, compose and record my own music, write and record a TED Talk, etc.). Students should understand that this goal will be done mainly on their own time with Check Ins with a teacher. They might need help from a parent or tech teacher to reach this goal, and will need to advocate for themselves when they need this support.

- To complete this ALP, students will create a Final Learning Product that includes their invention/project and a poster to show what they learned through the creative process. Students will present their Final Product at GT Night in May.
- Type of Final Learning Product: \_\_\_\_\_

**Improve Organization/Time Management (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students who need to get more organized and work on time management skills. Students will work in a small group with Ms. Londenberg to improve upon their skills to help them be more successful in their classes.

- To complete this ALP, students will write a reflection paper about their growth in this goal. No presentation is needed for this goal at GT Night in May. However, students are still expected to attend GT Night as a Student Ambassador to help evaluate other GT presenters, guide parents, and serve snacks.

**Independent Inquiry Project (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students who are curious about a topic and want to investigate it. Students will choose an independent research topic to learn about and find a relevant method to present their findings with. It will be beneficial for students to discuss their topics of choice with their adults at home. Students need to understand that this goal is done mainly on their own time and will need to advocate for themselves when they need help.

- To complete this ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product using their research findings. The format of this product is entirely up to the student and will be presented by the student at GT Night in May.
- Research Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Action and Service (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students who want to look beyond middle school and out into the world. Students will spend the year on a Social Action of their choosing. Students will find a volunteer opportunity in the community (could be through my church, family activities, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.) to work to make a difference. This might be a big one-time opportunity or a repeated chance to volunteer for a few months.

- Students are expected to keep a log of their Service Hours including the date of the Service Project, how many hours were spent participating, and a description of the project.
- To complete this ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product showing what their project was, why they chose it, what the results were, and what skills were used and developed through volunteering. The format of this product is entirely up to the student and will be presented by the student at GT Night in May.

**Career Exploration/Interview (Any GT ID)** - This goal is for students who want to explore a specific career field. Students will pick a career field to explore and interview an adult mentor in that field. The GT Coordinator, Ms. Londenberg, will find a mentor during the first semester while students work on researching the field and writing strong interview questions that must be submitted and approved. In January, students will reach out to their mentor to set up the interview. Interviews will take place in person or on Microsoft Teams.

- To complete this ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product to show what they have learned through this process. The Final Product should include details about the chosen field, the interview, and what the student learned. Students will present their Final Product at GT Night in May.

- College Visit OR Online College Research (Any GT ID)** - This goal is designed for students who want to learn more about post-secondary options (community college, 4-year universities, trade schools, etc). Students will complete at least one visitation (with parents or on the college field trip) during the school year. If students are more interested in an out-of-state option or a different college than the field trip, the 'visitation' research can be done online. Students will learn about campus resources, activities, major options, housing options, etc.
  - To complete this ALP, students will produce a Final Learning Product that provides a self-reflections of the experience and knowledge gained. The format of this product is entirely up to the student and will be presented by the student at GT Night in May.

**Affective Goals (Choose 1)**

Affective goals have no Final Learning Product for GT Night. These goals are a lesson in personal goal setting and follow-through during the school year. Affective goals are designed to have students practice setting personal growth goals and see it as a lifelong process.

- Resilience and Grit** - This goal has students focus on working their hardest to build resilience and grit to help them grow academically and keep their mental health strong. Students will work to use the four-phase process of resilience (Try, Learn, Adapt, Recover) when working through challenges in schoolwork, learning platforms, and more.
- Self-Advocacy** - This goal has students focus on developing self-advocacy skills and reaching out to teachers and staff as they need assistance. Becoming a strong self-advocate will help students grow academically and keep their mental health strong.
- Stress Management and Healthy Habits** - This goal has students focus on using exercise and other healthy personal choices (ex: unplugging more often from social media, getting more sleep, etc.) to help manage stress, to grow academically, and keep their mental health strong.
- Interpersonal Skills** - This goal has students focus on interpersonal skills with peers and adults through consistent communication and collaboration to help them be able to grow academically and keep their mental health strong.
- Productivity and Accountability** - This goal has students focus on increasing productivity and accountability in regard to their learning. Focusing on productivity levels and personal accountability will help them be able to grow academically and keep their mental health strong.

\*\*NOTE: Know that these are NOT unchangeable goal choice lists. If you have an idea for a goal that is not listed above, please set up a time to meet with Ms. Londenberg to discuss it.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_