

For Immediate Release

Sequoia Star Academy Announces New Gifted Program
S.T.A.R.G.A.T.E. program offers services for gifted and potentially gifted students!

The S.T.A.R.G.A.T.E. program is designed to provide K-12th grade students with a curriculum that develops their individual talents and provides the means and funds to “fast track” a college education. One of the programs main purposes is to help motivated students to graduate from high school with their diploma AND an associate’s degree at the same time.

College preparation begins as soon as a S.T.A.R.G.A.T.E student reaches the 6th grade academic ability level along with a students desire to move ahead at a quicker pace than can be accommodated in a traditional classroom setting. Students also participate in career and college exploration with the intent to emphasize development in areas that will help with their future academic and career goals.

“Currently at least 20% of our K-12th grade student body are academically accelerated,” Explains Shelley Watson, Sequoia Star Academy Principal. “We needed a program that would address the needs of our students that are capable of doing more.”

Sequoia Star Academy’s S.T.A.R.G.A.T.E. students have their own classroom with computer workstations. Students receive classroom and online instruction based upon each individual student’s ability level. Students also participate in research projects, fieldtrips, academic and career exploration, and college prep activities.

As their first fieldtrip, these students will ride the public bus to ASU where they will learn about college life and expectations.

To qualify for this program, students must show accelerated aptitude in math or language arts by exceeding on the AIMS test or Sequoia’s in-house testing system. Each student’s individual circumstances and personal goals will be taken into account. Students may have I.E.P.s, 504 plans, test anxiety, or other obstacles that may prevent them from testing correctly. This is taken into account when selecting participants and, therefore, potential is as much of a factor as accomplishment.

Sequoia Star Academy services K-12th grade students. The tuition-free charter school is located in east Mesa at 323 N. Gilbert Road and provides a private school yet casual feel with a performing arts focus.

There are five seats available in this program. Please call (480) 834-7400 for more information. Sequoia Star Academy is located at 323 N Gilbert Rd, Mesa, AZ 85213.

###