

**ATTENTION PARENTS: A Must Read for Parents of 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Graders who are Advanced!**



## **ASD Advanced Learning Lab (A. L. L.) Testing Saturdays – January 9<sup>th</sup> to January 30<sup>th</sup> 2016**

The Alpine School District (ASD) Gifted Services department will be conducting 8 sessions of testing for placements in the district A. L. L. classrooms for the 2016-2017 school year. Any interested 2<sup>nd</sup> grader through 7<sup>th</sup> grader in ASD is invited to attend a testing session to qualify for a placement in an Advanced Learning Lab (A. L. L.). The testing will occur according to the schedule below. All 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders interested in a placement for the next year will **have to test** for original placement in the A.L.L. program. If students are currently in an elementary or secondary A.L.L. program they do not need to retest if they have completed the intent to continue form. However, all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students must retest for placement between the elementary and secondary level. Testing for secondary A.L.L. is for designated English, History and Science classes. Math testing and placement is completed at individual schools.

Testing for both Elementary and Secondary Advanced Learning Lab (A. L. L.) programs will be done on Saturdays, January 9<sup>th</sup> to January 30<sup>th</sup>. The online registration is now open and will close the Tuesday prior to each testing session. There will be a \$20.00 fee for the testing. Students on free or reduced lunch status will register on-line with a reduced cost. Registering within three days of testing is considered a late registration and will incur an additional \$5.00 fee. Late registrants will be admitted upon availability. There are no refunds.

Go to [www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services](http://www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services) and register on the homepage through Xpress Bill Pay. Contact Gifted Services at 801-610-8475 or [staylor@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:staylor@alpinedistrict.org) with questions.

The following will be the testing dates, locations and times:

### **January 9, 2016: (North)**

- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders (Sec -A. L. L.) - **Mt. Ridge Junior High**, 5525 W 10400 N, Highland, UT, (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders (El -A. L. L.) - **Highland Elementary**, 10865 N 6000 W, Highland, UT, (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)

### **January 16, 2016: (East)**

- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders (Sec -A. L. L.) - **Canyon View Junior High**, 655 E 950 N, Orem, UT (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders (El -A. L. L.) - **Lindon Elementary**, 30 N Main, Lindon, UT (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)

### **January 23, 2016: (South)**

- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders (Sec -A. L. L.) **Orem Junior High**, 765 N 600 W, Orem, UT (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders (El -A. L. L.) - **Orem Elementary**, 450 W 400 S, Orem, UT (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)

### **January 30, 2016: (West)**

- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders (Sec -A. L. L.) - **Vista Heights Middle School**, 484 W Pony Express Pkwy, Saratoga Springs, UT (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders (El -A. L. L.) - **Thunder Ridge Elementary**, 264 N 750 W, Saratoga Springs, UT (7:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 4:30)

*Testing time includes the check-in process. Testers may bring a bottle of water, a simple snack and book. All other testing materials will be provided. If your child has testing accommodations through an IEP or 504 please contact Gifted Services ([staylor@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:staylor@alpinedistrict.org)) prior to the testing date to arrange for necessary accommodations.*

**Advanced Learning Lab (A.L.L.) Programs**  
Important Testing Information  
For Placement in the 2015-2016 School Year

Various programs are necessary to meet the diverse needs of academically advanced students. In order to address some of these needs, Alpine School District has established classes at an advanced level for third through eighth grade called A.L.L. (Advanced Learning Lab) **A.L.L. programs are located in nine different elementary schools and every junior high/middle school.** (See the website for magnet site information at [www.alpineschools.org](http://www.alpineschools.org) select schools then programs) A.L.L. is a full day program at specific elementary schools, and is a subject specific program at secondary schools. Students are placed according to nationally normed testing results and a written essay.

The purpose of this letter is to inform all parents/guardians of 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders about the opportunity to test for possible placement in an A.L.L. program. Qualifying students will be offered placement and invited to meet with the teacher to learn more about specific magnet site offerings. The identified students and their parents/guardians will then make the final decision to accept or decline placement.

**POSSIBLE INDICATORS TO CONSIDER PRIOR TO HAVING A STUDENT TESTED:**

- The student's Utah State SAGE test scores are a 4 in Language Arts, Math and Science.
- The student is reading at two or more grade levels above current grade.
- The current classroom teacher has suggested during a Parent/ Teacher Conference that the student could benefit from a more complex or in-depth curriculum as offered in a gifted program.
- The student learns quickly, recalls information effortlessly, is curious, self-motivated, works independently and typically remains committed to a task until its completion.
- The student exhibits satisfactory to outstanding citizenship in both attitude and behavior.
- The student has good school attendance and is committed to the program for two years.
- The student completes homework in a timely manner, has task commitment for long-term projects.
- The student initiates his/her own learning through questioning and research.

**ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION TO CONSIDER:**

- The A.L.L. candidates must qualify for the program through a series of evaluations. The top students are offered placement, and an additional four to six become alternates in a "candidate pool."
- Evaluations for elementary students include taking the full battery Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), secondary students taking the IOWA assessment in Reading, Writing, Social Studies and Science. All students will take a timed writing test based on a given prompt. Please note secondary mathematics is not tested through Gifted Services. This testing is done at the Junior High or Middle School.
- A.L.L. students will have assignments/homework that are greater in depth, breadth and complexity than in a regular class.
- For the elementary programs, parents are responsible for transportation to the A.L.L. site. Students attend the school closest to their boundary (see the website for school locations [www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services](http://www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services))
- For secondary programs, students must register for the school within their school boundary.

**If you feel that your child could benefit from placement in an Advanced Learning Lab (A.L.L.) and you would like to begin the consideration process start by registering them online: Go to [www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services](http://www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services) or [www.alpineschools.org](http://www.alpineschools.org) select schools, then Programs, then to Gifted Education and register on the homepage through Xpress Bill Pay. Contact Gifted Services at 801-610-8475 or [staylor@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:staylor@alpinedistrict.org) with questions.**

*Additional information can be found at [www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services](http://www.curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services)*