Beginning in the fall of 2013, elementary students in grades 1 and 2 will have the opportunity to experience enrichment classes that extend and enrich the curriculum that is being offered in the regular classroom.

These LIFT (Learning Interventions for Talented) classes will provide students, the regular classroom teacher, and the teacher of gifted education a chance to partner together to cultivate potential in younger high-ability students.

Prior to this new collaborative model, high-ability students were pulled out of their classroom setting for a small segment of time each week. The new model will provide whole class enrichment opportunities on a regular basis, and the model will allow for extension activities to be provided for the regular classroom teacher to continue using after the gifted specialist leaves the classroom.

In 3rd grade, students who are identified for gifted services in the SOAR Program (Strategies, Opportunities, Activities and Resources) will receive services from the gifted education teacher each week. The curriculum for these students will be reflective of the new North Carolina Gifted Education Standards established by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

As a part of the new grades 3-5 SOAR model, lessons will be planned that extend and enrich the new common core state standards and align with the standards for gifted education.