



Friday, September 22, 2023

Dear Sixth Grade Families,

Meeting the needs of all learners is part of the mission in the Cherry Creek School District; therefore, we will be administering the *Cognitive Abilities Test*<sup>™</sup> (*CogAT*) to all 6th grade students. The test will be group administered in an online format which takes a total of 2 hours to complete; however, the assessment will be administered over multiple days in three separate sessions, taking 30 to 45 minutes each. The CogAT will be administered during the time period of September 11 – November 2, 2023. Your child's teacher will inform you of the actual test day.

The CogAT appraises the development of student reasoning abilities using verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal cognitive tasks. The assessment is divided into three batteries which have been designated to appraise inductive and deductive reasoning abilities and also specific reasoning abilities as compared with same-aged peers. The Verbal battery assesses students' abilities to use search, retrieve, and compare processes that are essential for verbal reasoning, and this subtest will be offered with directions in seven different languages. The Quantitative battery assesses students' abilities to reason through patterns and relations using concepts that are essential to quantitative thinking. The Nonverbal battery assesses students' abilities to reason with somewhat more novel questions that use spatial and figural content.

Results will indicate children's areas of strength so that classroom teachers can provide instruction to nurture those individual, relative strengths. The results will be added to an individual student body of evidence. This body of evidence will be used for instructional purposes as well as to identify students who might benefit from gifted services. Later this Fall, students scoring at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the CogAT will be administered follow up academic achievement assessments in all four core content areas.

In order to obtain the best assessment results, please ensure that your child is well rested. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact School Administrator, Shayna Price, at [sprice@cherrycreekschools.org](mailto:sprice@cherrycreekschools.org).

Sincerely,

Dr. Brad Weinhold  
Horizon Community Middle School  
(720)886-6108