



**CASTEEL JUNIOR
HIGH SCHOOL**

**ACCELERATED
ACADEMY**

**Information Night
November 4, 2024**

MEET THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



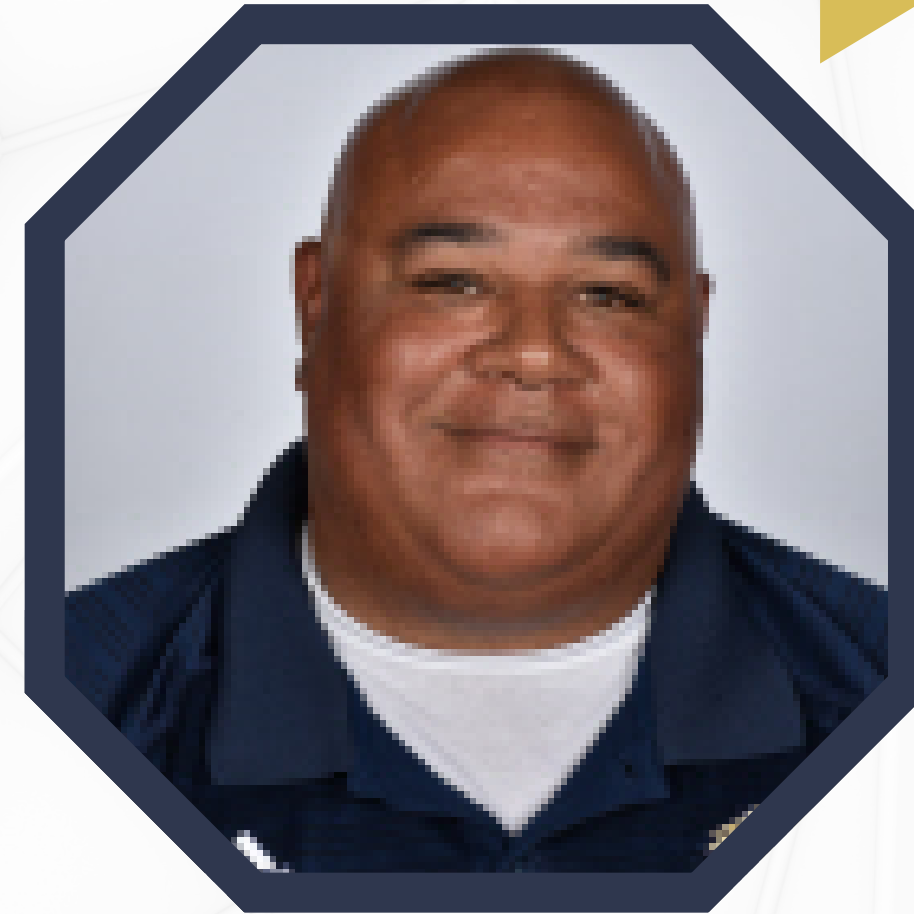
JAY SCHNITTGER
HIGH SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL



MARY ANN REZZONICO
JUNIOR HIGH TRANSITION
PRINCIPAL



SHELAMAE WOODWORTH
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
CURRICULUM



JOEY PERRY
DEAN OF STUDENTS
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

WHY CASTEEL?

1

**ADVANCED
FINE ARTS**

2

**SPORTS
ACADEMIES**

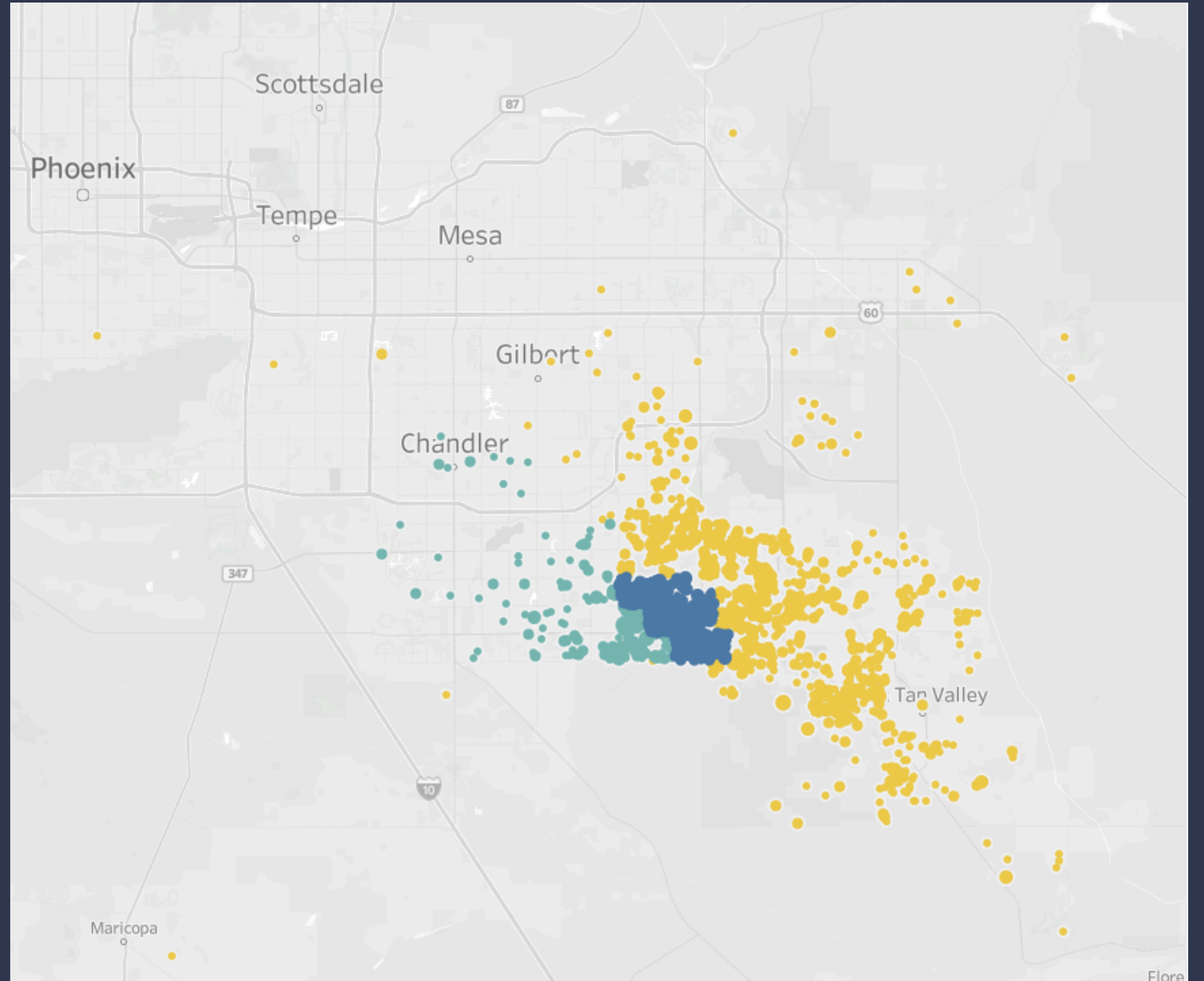
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**HIGH SCHOOL
LEVEL CLASSES**

4

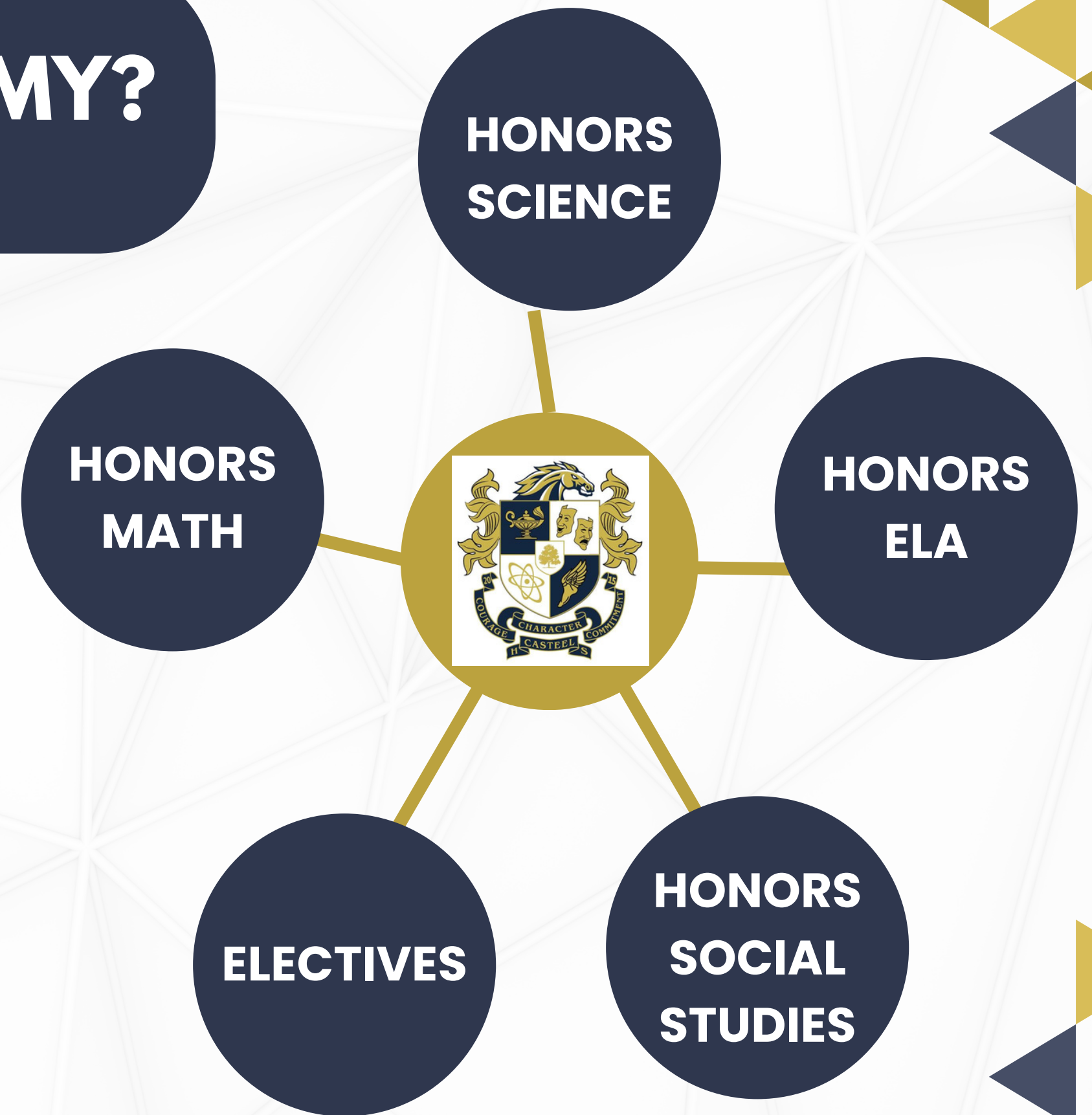
**STATE OF THE
ART
FACILITIES**

Casteel Enrollment



WHY AN ACCELERATED ACADEMY?

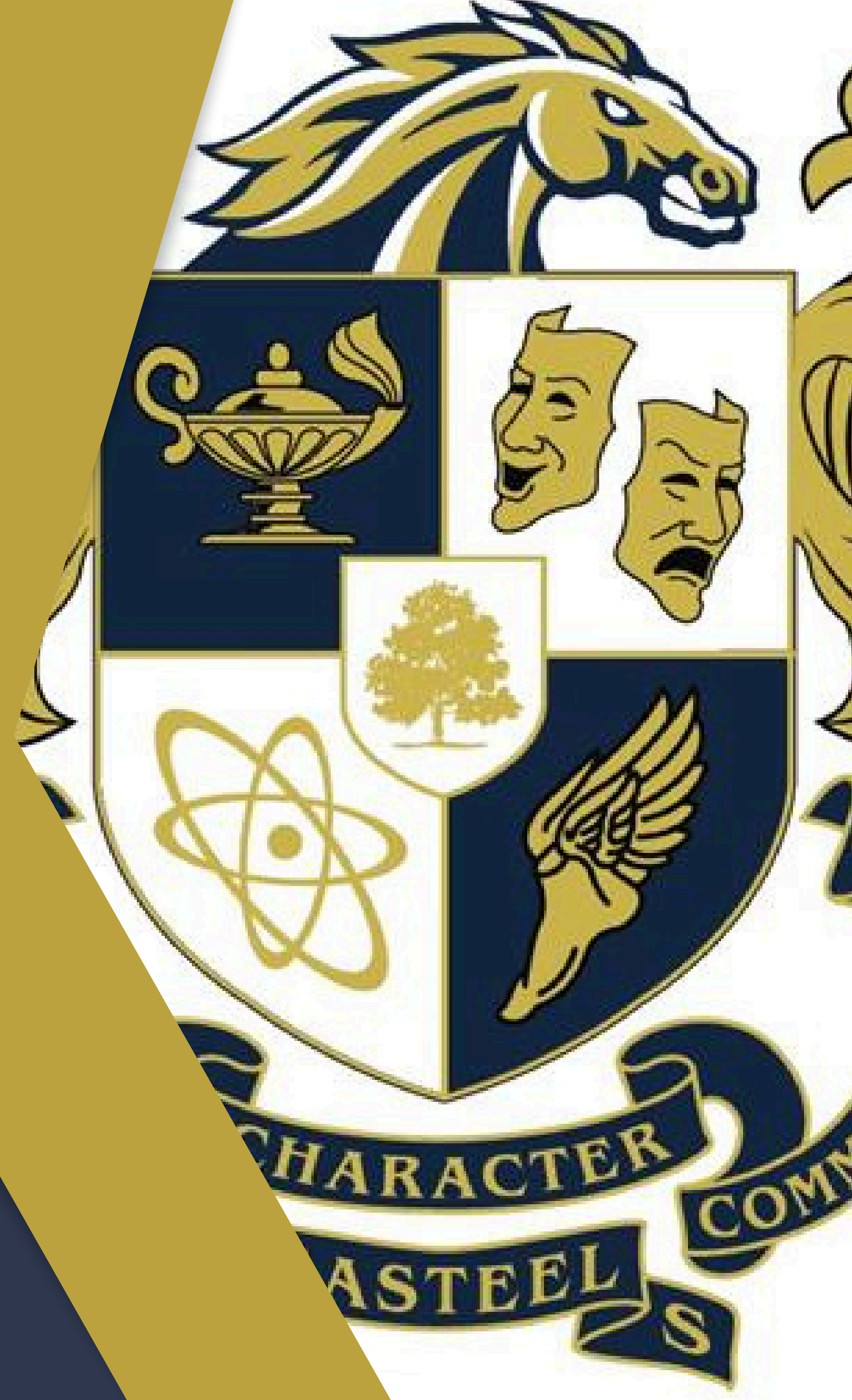
To provide an opportunity for 7th and 8th grade gifted and/or academically talented students to participate in an accelerated academic program at a school close to their home.



ACCELERATED VS. GIFTED

District gifted programs are self-contained, meaning students must qualify through COGAT (Gifted) Testing and are in classes with exclusively gifted peers. Teachers in a gifted program have taken courses focused on teaching gifted students and have a gifted endorsement on their teaching certificate.

Accelerated Academy Students are in courses with both gifted and academically talented students. Teachers are experienced in teaching honors level courses but may or may not have a gifted endorsement



MEET OUR TEACHERS

GENEVA BAKER
SCIENCE



SUSANA CLAPHAM
LANGUAGE ARTS



DAVID WOLFE
SOCIAL STUDIES



Meet Mrs. Clapham, M.Ed.

Grew up on the East Coast: NY-NJ-MA-FL; AZ resident since 1996!

Worked as a project manager for an architectural firm in FL and AZ before making a career change to teaching

21st year teaching

- Kindergarten
- 4th - 6th Self-Contained Gifted
- 8th grade Honors English

Full K-12 Gifted Endorsement



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English students in the Casteel Accelerated Academy participate actively in their learning through cross-curricular activities, and develop critical thinking and communication skills through project-based learning.

Socratic seminars, novel studies, and a challenging English curriculum prepares students for the rigors of high school honors and Advanced Placement programs.

Overview of ELA program:

- **Enriching English Language Arts State Standards through an accelerated curriculum.**
- **Interdisciplinary projects with Science and Social Studies**
- **Project-based learning**
 - **Creative writing**
 - **In-depth novel studies**
 - **Shakespeare plays**



Students performing Shakespeare in class



Mrs. Geneva Baker

- 28 years in Education, 25 in Jr High Science
- B.S. in Elementary Education – New Mexico State University
- M. Ed in Educational Technology – Northern Arizona University
- President 2017 & 2020, Current Secretary – Arizona Science Teachers Association
- Assistant State Director – Arizona Science Olympiad
- Science Olympiad Coach at Casteel



I am passionate about science education. I want students to be curious about the world around them. My class motto is “Stay curious!”

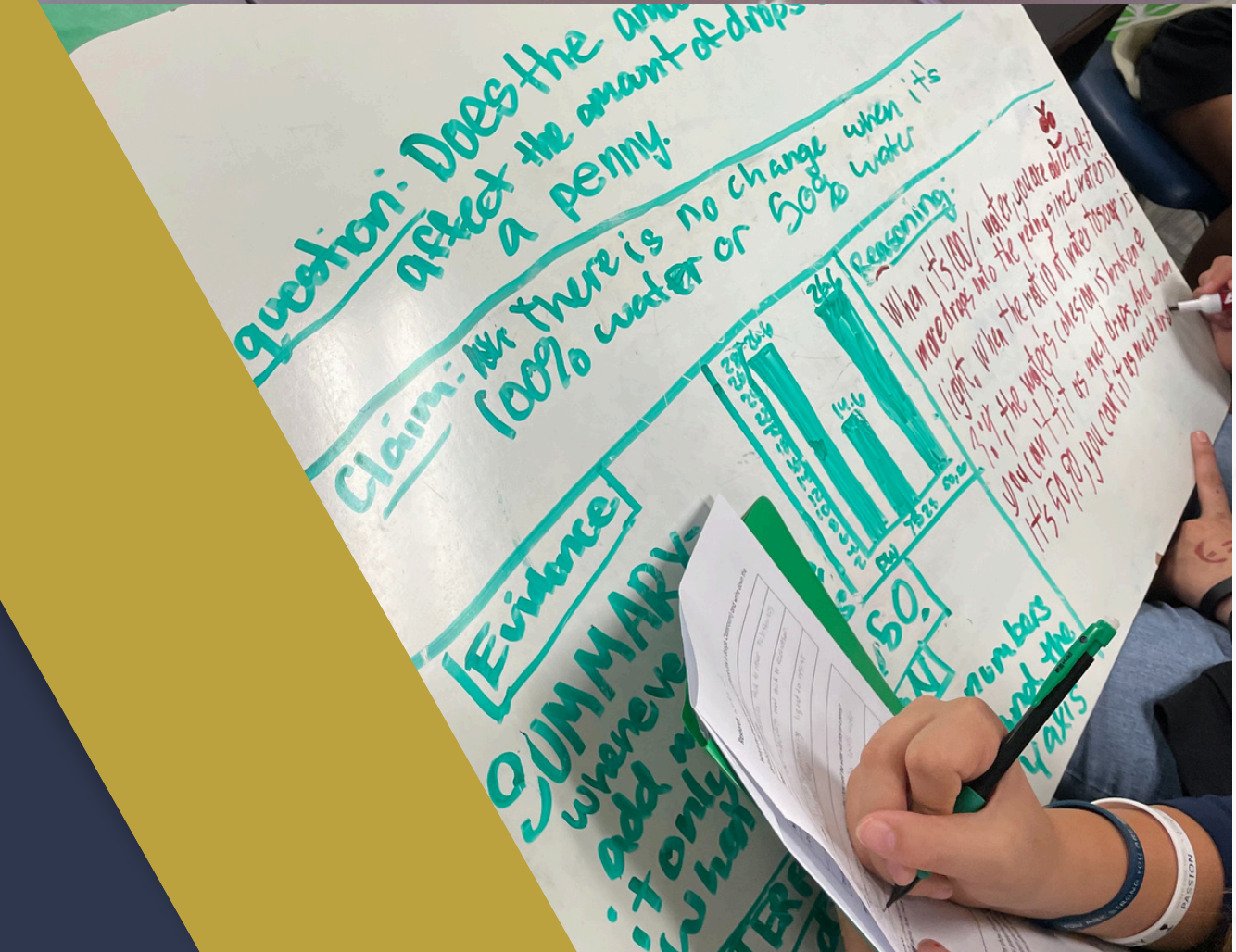


HONORS SCIENCE

In the Accelerated Academy, the focus is on engaging students with new information, solving problems, and making connections between scientific disciplines, all while relating science to the world around them.

To accomplish that, we utilize the following instructional practices:

- Phenomenon based instruction
- Argument Driven Inquiry
- STEM Projects
 - Science Fair
 - Invention Convention
- Interdisciplinary Units
- STEM Related Field Experiences



Mr. David Wolfe

Born in Western Germany—witnessed the Berlin Wall going down while in the country.

Worked as a Civilian, Government Service, for the Department of Defense/Department of the Army throughout high school and College/University.

2 years University teaching and 12 years teaching in K-12 system

BA—German and World History

MA—German Language and Culture

MEd—Secondary Education

AP Certified

I teach all of the German levels (1 to 5) and will be teaching Accelerated Social Studies 7 and 8.



HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES

In the Accelerated Social Studies classes, the goal will be to help students learn to think and analyze like historians in order to better prepare them for AP starting in freshman year of high school, as well as promoting such concepts as civic engagement, rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and awareness of community.



MATH

Students will be placed in their Math Class based on their current level and state testing data.

Current Level	Next Level
Math 7	Honors Pre-Algebra
Honors Pre-Algebra	Algebra I
Honors Algebra 1	Honors Geometry
Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra II

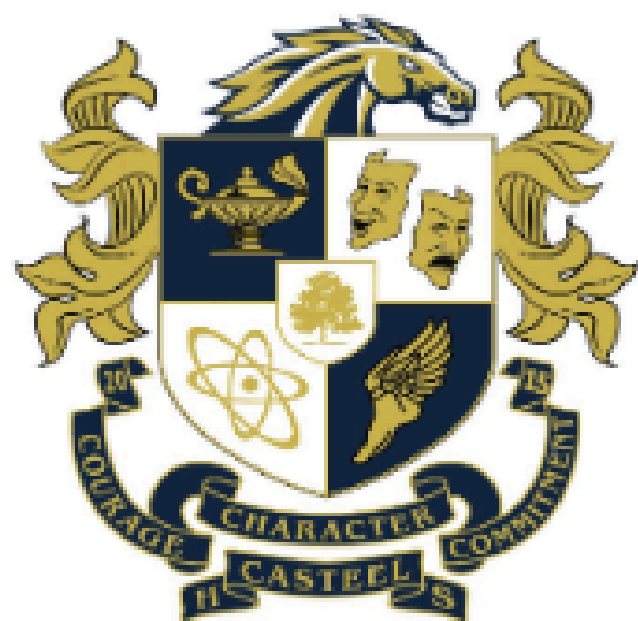
The goal is for 7th graders to start in Algebra I their 7th grade year and take Honors Geometry their 8th grade year.

We will offer a Honors Pre-Algebra summer school class at Casteel to “bridge” students from Math 7 to Algebra I

Casteel Junior High School Accelerated Academy

Course Sequence

Casteel Junior High School
24901 South Power Road
Queen Creek, AZ 85142
480-424-8100



****Class may be combined with high school students and taught by a high school teacher.**

7th Grade Classes

MATH

**Honors Pre-Algebra (MAT705)
 or Honors Algebra I (MAT105)**

LANGUAGE ARTS

Honors Language Arts 7 (ENG705)

SOCIAL STUDIES

Honors Social Studies 7 (SOC705)

SCIENCE

Honors Science 7 (SCI705)

Elective #1 - World Language or a Performing Fine Arts Class****

Elective #2 - Student chooses from a variety of electives offered to all junior high students.

8th Grade Classes

MATH

Honor Algebra I (MAT105) or Honors Geometry (MAT 205 A & B) and/or Honors Algebra II** (MAT305 A & B)**

LANGUAGE ARTS

Honors Language Arts 8 (ENG805)

SOCIAL STUDIES

Honors Social Studies 8 (SOC805)

SCIENCE

Honors Science 8 (SCI805)

Elective #1 - World Language** or a Performing Fine Arts Class*

Elective #2 - Student chooses from a variety of electives offered to all junior high students.

(*Exceptions made for students involved in our Sports Academies

UPCOMING DATES

- **Open Enrollment Begins - November 12**
- **6th Grade Step-Up Day - January 16th**
- **Open House/Curriculum Night - January 23**
- **First Day of School - July 16th**



Questions



This presentation will be posted on our website for future reference

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

**Click on the QR Code below to
request a campus tour**



**Click on the QR Code below to fill out the
Accelerated Academy Interest Form**

