

Gifted and Talented



Meet Mr. Finney!

Jason Finney currently serves as the Gifted and Talented Specialist for Forest Park Elementary in Little Rock, Arkansas. He is a magna cum laude graduate (B.A./History) of Lyon College, and has earned Master's degrees in both Political Science (UA-Fayetteville) and Gifted Education (UA-Little Rock). He also completed a graduate program in American Studies (Baylor University). Mr. Finney is beginning his 14th year at Forest Park and has been in the field of education for 24 years, starting as a Teach For America corps member teaching fourth grade in Newark, New Jersey. He was also the executive director of Teach for America-New Orleans for several years before returning to the classroom. He has served as principal for UA-Little Rock's gifted summer program (SLUFY) and assistant director of LRSD's gifted camp—SPARK. Mr. Finney has been a National Board Certified Educator for 16 years, and has been selected teacher of the year at both Forest Park and Mann Magnet Middle School. He regularly provides professional development on topics such as early childhood enrichment and observation, STEM education, teacher motivation and beliefs, the inductive model of teaching, and increasing diversity in gifted education.