
DISTRICT POLICY AND PLAN FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE GIFTED

Information for Parents



DEFINITION

“Gifted” means students who perform or show potential for performing at remark-ably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment and who are identified under division (A), (B), (C), or (D) of section 3324.03 of the Revised Code.

SCREENING AND ASSESSING

The District uses a three-part approach to screen students who perform or show potential for performing at high levels of accomplishment in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creativity, and visual and/or performing arts.

STEP 1:

PRE-ASSESSMENT

The pre-assessment part of the process involves gathering student data from a variety of sources including teacher, parent, and peer nominations, grades, portfolios, observations, review of student records, and outstanding products or performances, etc. All students are involved in the pre-assessment pool.

By using the pre-assessment process, the district ensures equal access to screening and further assessment by all district children, including culturally or linguistically diverse children, children from low socioeconomic backgrounds, children with disabilities, and children for whom English is a second language.

STEP 2:

ASSESSMENT FOR SCREENING

The screening stage examines the data gathered from the pre-assessment stage and determines if additional assessment is necessary.

In making decisions about additional assessment, existing test data for students is not the sole determining criteria. School personnel examine all available information about a student to determine if an evidence of possible giftedness exists for that student and conduct necessary additional assessment.

District-determined cut-off scores, to move students from screening stage to the assessment stage, are lower than the scores necessary for identification. Parents will be notified within thirty days of the results of screening.

STEP 3:

ASSESSMENT FOR IDENTIFICATION

Assessment strategies provide additional data necessary for an identification decision and the delivery of services. Strategies for additional assessment include the individual and group testing requirements of Sections 3324.01-3324.07 of the Ohio Revised Code; and as described in the Gifted Identification pamphlet.

Once additional assessment has been completed, the data obtained throughout the stages of identification are evaluated, the identification decision is made and student’s educational needs are determined. Parents will be notified within thirty days of the results of assessment.

REFERRAL

The district ensures there are ample and appropriate scheduling procedures for assessments and reassessment using:

- Group tests;
- Individually-administered tests;
- Audition, Performance;
- Display of work;
- Exhibition; and
- Checklists.

Children may be referred on an ongoing basis, based on the following:

- Child request (self-referral);
- Teacher recommendation;
- Parent/guardian request;
- Child referral of peer; and
- Other (e.g., psychologist, community members, principal, gifted coordinator, etc.)

Upon receipt of a referral, the district will

- Follow the process as outlined in this brochure; and

- Notify parents of results of screening or assessment and identification.

The district administers whole grade screening in grades 3, 5, and 7. In addition, the district provides at least two opportunities a year for assessment in the case of children requesting assessment or recommended for assessment by teachers, parents, or other children. The district utilizes only approved assessment instruments from the list provided by the Ohio Department of Education. All assessments have been validated for the specific purpose for which they are used, are administered by qualified personnel in the child's native language or other mode of communication.

GENERAL

The district accepts scores on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education provided by other school districts and/or trained personnel outside the school district.

TRANSFER

The district ensures that any child transferring into the district will be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the request of the parent. Parents shall contact the building principal.

SERVICES

The District ensures equal opportunity for all district students identified as gifted to receive any services offered by the district. Services may include: resource room, cluster grouping, grade/subject acceleration, placement in advanced/honors classes, education options, college credit plus options, and early entrance to kindergarten

K-5: Gifted students are served through differentiated strategies in the regular classroom developed by the general education teacher and/or the Gifted Intervention Specialist.

4th and 5th Grade: The Eagle program is a class of identified superior cognitive students who come together one day each week to extend and deepen their understanding of content and receive training in thinking skills.

6th Grade Advanced Math and Language Arts are available for students identified as gifted in these subject areas or score at high levels on a nationally normed achievement test.

7-12: Honors classes are available along with additional educational options including independent study and post-secondary options for qualifying students.

Subject Acceleration is an option that allows qualified students the opportunity to move ahead one or more grade levels in a subject.

Grade level acceleration is the option of allowing a qualified student to move ahead one entire grade level. The student must be exceptional in all subject areas and show appropriate social maturity to move ahead one grade level.

WRITTEN EDUCATION PLANS

An identified child receiving services from the District will have a written education plan (WEP). The WEP will include the description of services to be provided, goals for the student for each service to be provided, methods for evaluating progress toward goals specified, method and schedule for reporting progress to parents, the staff responsible for ensuring delivery of each service prescribed, policies regarding waiver of assignments and re-scheduling of tests if necessary, and a deadline for the next review of the WEP. A copy of the WEP will be provided to parents and staff responsible for providing services listed.

WRITTEN ACCELERATION PLANS

All gifted students who are subject or whole grade accelerated will have a Written Acceleration Plan (WAP). This document includes a description of acceleration services for the gifted student, communication as it relates to the acceleration placement for the school year, documentation supporting the effectiveness of acceleration services provided to the gifted student, annual WAP review dates, and personnel responsible for services. A copy of the WAP will be provided to parents and staff responsible for providing services listed.

WITHDRAWAL

If at anytime, a student wishes to withdraw from gifted programs or services, the request should be written by the parent or child to the building administrator. If children request to withdraw, parents will be notified.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

An appeal by the parent is the reconsideration of the results of any part of the identification process which would include the screening procedure or assessment instrument (which results in identification), the scheduling of children for assessment, the placement of a student in any program, and receipt of services.

Parents should submit a letter to the superintendent or designee outlining the nature of the concern. The superintendent or designee will convene a meeting with the parent/guardian, which may include other school personnel. The superintendent or designee will issue a written final decision with 30 days of the appeal. This written notice should include the reason for the decision(s).

If you have questions, please call your building principal

Luckey	833-2821
Pemberville	287-3200
Middle School	833-6011
High School	833-3611

Or

The Coordinator of Gifted Programming

Office Phone: 833-3611 ext. 1265
Email: tmckibben@eastwoodschoools.org

For additional information, please access the district web site:

<http://www.eastwoodschoools.org>