

GIFTED CHILD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (REGULATIONS)

Recognizing that the hallmark of excellence is continuity, unity, balance, and harmony, Perry schools will provide instruction for the intellectually gifted student. Gifted and talented students should have ample extent possible. The freedom, responsibility, and capability to manage one's time is an important ingredient of self-fulfillment and productivity, the leadership capabilities of gifted and talented students imply increased responsibilities to self, home, and society. Opportunity for the development of creative thinking and expression in a rich variety of constructive ways is vital. Gifted students should have the option to develop a positive feeling toward things of beauty and consequence such as architecture, the arts, nature, language, and literature. There should be an emphasis on a tolerance for divergent thought as an aid to learning as well as a focus on development of patterns of thinking that seek alternative solutions to problems prior to action. This goal seeks to expand the capacity for reasoning and effective decision making. Stress should be placed on the development of a pattern of thinking that continually questions, probes, tests, and investigates. There is a need for a gifted and talented student to be made aware of careers that are commensurate with their abilities, interests, and spiritual satisfaction. Cognitive objective for the solving, independence, self-direction in learning and language skills.

"Gifted children" means those children identified in grades K through 12 as having demonstrated potential abilities of high performance capability and needing differentiated or accelerated education or services.

1. Identification

- A. Screening – The first step in the identification process is to locate students by screening the annual standardized achievement test scores. All students scoring at the ninety-seventh percentile or higher on the composite score or in any sub-area are listed for further evaluation. Students from different cultural and economic backgrounds will be carefully screened and considered for further testing. Nomination will be accepted from parents, teachers, peers, or the individual student using check lists, other referrals, scales, or inventories.
- B. Testing – Each student nominated for the gifted program will be administered an individual intelligence test. The Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children-Revised and/or Stanford Binet Intelligence Test will be given individually. The individual testing will be administered by a certified psychometrist. Written parental consent shall be obtained for individual evaluations.
- C. Placement Criteria – The placement team will be composed of: a regular classroom teacher, the gifted education teacher, and the counselor or building principal. The team will make decisions about the appropriate programming options for each student. To allow for the unbiased assessment of all cultural and economic backgrounds, the placement team decision for placement may be made based on referral, student product or performance, and other relevant information. The placement team will consider students for placement in the program if they meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - 1. Enrolled in Perry Schools.
 - 2. Scored in the top 3% (+/-6) on the individual intelligence test.
 - 3. Exhibited outstanding classroom performance.

GIFTED CHILD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (REGULATIONS) (Cont.)

4. Approved by parents or guardians for child's participation.
5. Expressed desire of student to participate.
2. Procedural Safeguards
 - A. All students identified for screening will be given appropriate consideration. When a child has been evaluated with the testing instruments provided by the school, the results will be considered legal and valid by the local education agency.
 - B. If a parent whose child did not score in the ninety-seventh percentile files a complaint within 10 school days after receiving the test scores, the school will provide a different but comparable test. If the results also fall below the required score the school shall not provide additional testing. Should the parent file a second complaint, the parent shall pay for all incurred costs of testing from an outside agency. Only nationally normed tests will be accepted by the school. There will be a 30 day period beginning from the date of the last notification of non-compliance with the policy requirements. The school reserves the right to have the placement team review all tests from an outside agency.
 - C. All test results and other relevant records are confidential and will be kept in a separate folder, in a secure area.
 - D. Students who were referred for individual testing, but who did not qualify or were not placed in the program, may be retested according to guidelines, restrictions, and limitations of the test. Their latest achievement test scores must be within the range required for referral according to this policy.
 - E. Students moving into the district will be accepted if their test scores are current, within the last three years, or if any other criteria set by this policy applies.
 - F. Once students are identified for the gifted program, they may remain in the program through the 12th grade.
 - G. Students may be removed from the gifted program by the placement team after conferring with the parent and/or the student. Non-compliance with school policy or the gifted program policy will be consideration for removal. The student with a written parental request may choose to withdraw from the program.
3. Programming Description

Program options to be used for the appropriate age group include:

 - A. Enrichment of content
 - B. In class acceleration of content

GIFTED CHILD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (REGULATIONS) (Cont.)

- C. Individualization of instruction
- D. Guidance
- E. Guided research
- F. Honors classes
- G. Credit by examination
- H. Correspondence courses
- I. Advanced placement
- J. Independent study
- K. Concurrent enrollment
- L. Academic competitions
- M. Cross-grade grouping
- N. Mentorships
- O. Pull out enrichment class

Opportunity should be given to accelerate to an out-of-grade level course. Responsibility will be taken for needs assessment and individual scheduling by the gifted education teacher with the counselor, parents, and student.

4. Parental Notification

Parents will be notified in person of the student's eligibility or ineligibility. Verification of the fact will be a signed, dated form. A complete program description will be provided to each participating student's parents detailing options available each school year.