

tered easily if presented in another format. Teachers should attempt to introduce new concepts and schedule tests at a time when gifted students are in the regular classroom. Students are responsible for communicating with the teacher regarding missed assignments.

WITHDRAWAL

Any request to withdraw a student from gifted services shall be made in writing, citing specific reasons for the withdrawal by the student's parent(s) to the Coordinator of Gifted Services. He/she will not be permitted to re-enter the program .

APPEAL PROCEDURE

To appeal the results of any part of the identification process or placement decision, parents should submit a letter to Carolyn Mack , Coordinator for Gifted Education, outlining the nature of the concern. The district will issue a written final decision within 30 days of the appeal.

Middletown City Schools

Dr. Sam Ison, Superintendent

*Dr. Elizabeth Lolli, Sr. Director of Curriculum
& Instruction*

*Carolyn Mack, Director of Staff Development
& Gifted Education*

<http://www.middletowncityschools.com>

Middletown City Schools

G&T

*Gifted and Talented
Enrichment [GATE] Program*

Identification and Service

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MIDDLETOWN CITY SCHOOLS POLICY AND PLAN FOR IDENTIFICATION AND SERVICE OF CHILDREN WHO ARE GIFTED

DEFINITION

“Gifted” means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably 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 Ohio Revised Code.

DISTRICT IDENTIFICATION PLAN

The district accepts referrals, screens and identifies, or screens and reassesses students who perform or show potential for performing at high levels of accomplishment in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, or creative thinking ability.

The district must follow policy and procedures established in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-15. These rules specify that assessment instruments must come from the list approved by the Ohio Department of Education. All public schools in Ohio are required to identify gifted students in grades K-12. Children may be identified as gifted in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and visual or performing arts ability.

Specific academic ability means one or more of the following areas of instruction:

- Mathematics
- Science
- Reading, writing or a combination of these skills
- Social Studies

Identification begins with nationally-normed assessments that are approved by the Ohio

Department of Education. All students in grade 2 are screened in the Middletown City Schools. Students in all grade levels may be referred for assessment on an ongoing basis. Procedures for making a referral will be provided upon request.

All students who meet the written criteria for gifted service are provided an equal opportunity to receive that service. Once a student is identified as gifted, he or she will receive gifted service commensurate with his/her area of identification as outlined in our Service Plan and does not need to re-qualify.

The district provides to parents periodic progress reports in accordance with the gifted student’s Written Education Plan. Parents and all educators responsible for providing gifted education services are provided a copy of the WEP.

SERVICES

Middletown City Schools ensures equal opportunity for all students identified as gifted to be considered for participation in district services. While the state of Ohio requires school districts to identify gifted students, there is no requirement that gifted services be provided. Our district is required to notify a parent if their child meets the criteria to be identified as gifted in the areas of superior cognitive ability (IQ), composite achievement or specific academic ability in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Identification in the areas of creative thinking, visual and performing arts is available upon request.

A student scoring at or above the ninety-fifth percentile in a specific academic area will qualify for services offered in that academic subject.

Service options include early entrance to kindergarten single subject acceleration, whole acceleration, gifted math classes at grades three through six, gifted reading classes at grade three through six, creativity classes at grades three through six, Advanced classes in math and reading at grades seven through 12. Students may self-select appropriate levels of academic challenge at the high school. Options may include college preparatory classes, Advanced Placement courses, and College Credit Plus.

ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Assessment tools used by Middletown City School District along with the screening and identification/ qualification scores include:

Superior cognitive identification:

- The Naglieri Non-Verbal Ability Test (screening: 120, identification: 125)
- The Weschler Individual Achievement Test, 3rd Edition (identification: 95% or above in core areas)
- The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (when used as an aptitude test, scores vary)

Specific academic identification:

- The Weschler Individual Achievement Test, 3rd Edition (identification: 95% or above in one or more areas)
- The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (identification: 95% or above in core areas Creative thinking ability)
- Scales for Rating the Behavioral Charac-

teristics of Superior Students (Part II) (screening: 48, identification: 51)

- The Naglieri Non-Verbal Ability Test (screening: 104, identification: 109)
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress), a nationally-normed achievement test, score at or above the 95th percentile on MAP in mathematics or reading.

Students whose screening scores fall in the “retest range” qualify for a second opportunity to meet the State of Ohio’s criteria for gifted identification. The “retest range” for reading and mathematics on MAP is the 90th to 94th percentile. The “retest range” on the InView IQ assessment is 120 to 127. Parents will be notified of additional testing opportunities. A student may be given two opportunities a year to meet the identification criteria, which includes the re-testing opportunity for those who fall in the retest range as a result of participation in a districtwide assessment.

If a student transfers into our district from within the state of Ohio, Gifted Services reviews the assessments in their cumulative folder and makes arrangements for any additional testing that might be needed for them to qualify for services. If test results are submitted from out of state and the test(s) used for identification do not appear on our state approved list or scores are more than two years old, the student will be assessed using approved State of Ohio assessments.

WAIVER OF ASSIGNMENTS POLICY

Students who participate in gifted services are not assigned work missed in the regular classroom if this work provides practice or review, has been mastered, or would be mas-