

District Regulation

2464 - GIFTED AND TALENTED PUPILS (M)

Section: Program

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M

A. Identification and Selection

1. Classroom teachers will be familiar with the criteria for identifying gifted and talented pupils and will be alert to pupils who exhibit those criteria. The identification methodology will be developmentally appropriate, non-discriminatory, and related to the programs and services offered by the district.
2. The Superintendent/Principal will review the cumulative files of all Kindergarten through grade six pupils against the criteria for identifying gifted and talented pupils. The review will include consideration of intelligence ratings, classroom achievements, standardized test results, and observations from teaching staff members.
3. The Superintendent/Principal will confer with past and present teachers of any pupil identified in the review of files and of any pupil recommended for screening by a teacher.
4. A committee comprised of the Superintendent/Principal, the teacher, and the former teacher will select those pupils who should participate in the program for gifted and talented pupils.

B. Selection Criteria

Pupils will be considered for participation in the gifted and talented program when compared to their peers within the district. A pupil will be considered for participation in the program for gifted and talented pupils who:

1. Achievement Measures: The student must demonstrate scores in the 95th percentile or better in one or more content areas as compared to national norms on standardized assessments and local norms on local assessments;
2. Has standardized test scores in the 95th percentile in two or more subject areas;
3. Intelligence Measure: Has an I.Q. of 120 and is highly motivated to achieve academically;
4. Consistently demonstrates behaviors associated with gifted learners from a modified Renzulli Scale;
5. Consistently demonstrates intellectual or creative ability as endorsed by a teacher recommendation in a content area;

C. Program

1. When a pupil has been identified as gifted or talented, the Superintendent/Principal will:
 - a. Communicate with the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) about the identification and the pupil's program and secure the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) cooperation and permission for the pupil's participation in the program,
 - c. Confer with the pupil's teacher/s about a proposed educational program for the pupil, and
 - d. Monitor the pupil's progress and adjust the educational program to meet the pupil's needs and interests.
2. The enrichment needs of gifted and talented pupils can be met through a wide variety of activities and teaching strategies. Appropriate curricular and instructional modifications will be developed for gifted pupils, and the program will address appropriate content, process, products, and learning environment.
3. Each pupil's program will seek to involve the pupil in all subject areas that can provide growth and stimulation in higher cognitive processes such as

interpretation, extrapolation, translation, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

4. No enrichment program will replace the basic instructional program appropriate to the pupil's grade level.
5. The enriched educational program for a gifted and talented pupil may consist of:
 - a. Additional classroom studies and assignments,
 - b. Special classes in appropriate studies,
 - c. Independent projects in after-school sessions supervised by the teacher, and/or
 - d. General information, as well as content-specific information, as provided for in the curriculum frameworks developed by the New Jersey Department of Education.
6. A classroom teacher may provide for the needs of gifted and talented pupils by:
 - a. Presenting content material that is related to broad-based issues, themes, or problems,
 - b. Integrating multiple disciplines into the study area,
 - c. Allowing for in-depth learning of a topic selected by the pupil within the study area,
 - d. Developing the pupil's independent and self-directed study skills,
 - e. Developing research skills and methods,
 - f. Integrating higher-level thinking skills into the curriculum,
 - g. Focusing on open-ended tasks,
 - h. Using new techniques, materials, and forms,

- i. Encouraging the development of self-understanding, and
- j. Encouraging self-appraisal and evaluation.

D. Exit Procedures

1. Each pupil identified as gifted and talented will be assessed annually for the continuing appropriateness of his/her enriched program. Assessment will include:
 - a. Review of any updated standardized assessment scores
 - b. Review of the pupil's file, including relevant achievement data, and
 - c. Review of the pupil's work in the preceding school year.
2. The program will be revised as required to meet the pupil's needs and interests.
3. The pupil may be withdrawn from the gifted and talented program when:
 - a. The pupil's academic record indicates a decline in performance,
 - b. The pupil wishes to withdraw and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) consents to withdrawal, or
 - c. The pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) request withdrawal.
4. The pupil's classroom teacher will decide to withdraw a pupil from the gifted and talented program, the Superintendent/Principal, the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and, where appropriate, the pupil.

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