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

Parent Brochure



Gifted Services
Bloom-Carroll Local School District

Updated September 2013

GIFTED IDENTIFICATION

According to Ohio Revised Code Sections 3324.01-07, "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.

The Bloom-Carroll Local School District provides opportunities for gifted students in grades kindergarten through 12 to be identified as follows:

- A. **Superior Cognitive:** A student shall be identified as exhibiting superior cognitive ability if the student:
- Scored two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved individual or group standardized intelligence test;
 - Performed at or above the 95th percentile on an approved individual or group standardized basic or composite battery of a nationally-normed achievement test;
 - Attained an approved score on one or more above-grade level standardized, nationally-normed approved tests.
- B. **Specific Academic:** A student shall be identified as exhibiting specific academic ability superior to that of children of similar age in a specific academic field if the student scores at or above the 95th percentile on an approved standardized achievement test of specific academic ability. Fields of academic ability include:
- Mathematics
 - Science
 - Reading
 - Social Studies
- C. **Creative Thinking Ability:** A student shall be identified as exhibiting creative thinking ability superior to children of a similar age if the student scored one standard deviation above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved test and also did either of the following:
- Attained a sufficient score, as established by the Ohio Department of Education, on an approved individual or group test of creative ability;
 - Exhibited sufficient performance, as established by the Ohio Department of Education, on an approved checklist of creative behaviors.
- D. **Visual and Performing Arts:** A student shall be identified as exhibiting visual or performing arts ability superior to that of children of similar age if the student has demonstrated through a display of work, an audition, or other performance or exhibition, superior ability in a visual or performing arts area, and exhibited sufficient performance on an approved checklist of behaviors related to a specific arts area.

Pre-Assessment and Screening

The Bloom-Carroll Local School District ensures that all students are provided equal opportunity to be screened for potential giftedness. Students are whole-grade assessed in 2nd and 4th grades using the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and the Cognitive Ability Test (CogAT) Form 7. Students can be individually assessed based on referrals submitted by teachers, parents, self or other students. The District uses qualified employees to administer all testing.

Referrals

Students referred for assessment by teachers, parents, self or other students will be offered opportunities to be assessed for giftedness. Timeline for referrals include the following cut-off dates: Fall referrals should be submitted no later than October 15th; spring referrals should be submitted no later than April 15th. Referral forms are located in the main office of each building.

Transfers

Upon submission, the District will accept scores on approved instruments provided by other school districts or trained personnel outside the school district; this includes but is not limited to private schools, talent search organizations and testing facilities. The District reviews the cumulative records of all students transferring into the District. Those students meeting the criteria for gifted identification and/or service are notified. Additionally, parents of transfer students may request screening and the student will be assessed within 90 days of that referral.

Special Population

The District is aware of the unique assessment needs of diverse students. Every effort is made to administer the most appropriate assessment to every student; this includes individual tests, tests with non-verbal components, tests in the student's native language, additional follow-up assessments, as well as tests valid for special populations. District personnel will select from a wide range of available assessments and consult the instrument's technical manual for assurance of use with diverse populations.

Procedure for Notification

The District will provide parents with written notification of any assessment results within 30 days of receiving those results. Additionally, District personnel providing regular classroom instruction and/or services to the identified students will be notified of the students' areas of giftedness.

Appeal Process for Placement Decisions

Parents may appeal in writing the assessments results, the scheduling of their student for assessment, or the placement of their student in any service. Those appeals must be received within 30 days of the District's notification of results. Appeals are sent to the District Gifted Coordinator. The District will work with the parents to resolve those appeals; however, District timelines for screening as well as criteria for service will be followed.

Withdrawal Process

If at any time a parent wishes to withdraw his or her child from gifted services, the request should be made in writing to the Gifted Coordinator who will provide a 'Withdrawal from Gifted Services' request form.

Acceleration

Whole-grade and subject acceleration is thoughtfully considered by an acceleration team on a case-by-case basis. The Iowa Acceleration Scale is used as a tool to guide acceleration teams on appropriate placement. All accelerated students will have a Written Acceleration Plan meeting ODE guidelines. Early admission to kindergarten and early graduation from high school can also be requested. Bloom-Carroll Local School District adopted the State Model Policy for Acceleration and follows the guidelines set forth in that policy in determining all acceleration requests.

GIFTED SERVICES

Intermediate School Gifted Services ~ Grades 3 - 4

Gifted Reading Class - Placement shall be determined by scores obtained from the 2nd grade Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) as well as any qualifying scores from additional assessments on ODE's approved list. Students must obtain a score in the 95th percentile or higher in the specific academic area of reading on a nationally-normed state-approved achievement test to qualify for placement. If class size permits, students obtaining a score in the 85th percentile or higher in the specific academic area on an achievement test and has superior cognitive identification will be placed in the gifted class.

Gifted Mathematics Class - Placement shall be determined by scores obtained from the 2nd grade Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) as well as any qualifying scores from additional assessments on ODE's approved list. Students must obtain a score in the 95th percentile or higher in the specific academic area of math on a nationally-normed state-approved achievement test to qualify for placement. If class size permits, students obtaining a score in the 85th percentile or higher in the specific academic area on an achievement test and has superior cognitive identification will be placed in the gifted class.

Middle School Gifted Services ~ Grades 5 - 8

Enrichment Classes: Differentiation is provided by the regular classroom teacher in an enrichment section of the following courses:

- Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies

Placement in the enrichment classes shall be determined by scores obtained from the 4th grade Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) and any qualifying scores from individual assessments on ODE's approved list. Students must earn one of the following scores to qualify for these services:

- A score in the 95th percentile or higher in the specific academic area on a nationally-normed state-approved *achievement* test

OR

- A score in the 85th percentile or higher in the specific academic area on an achievement test and be identified as superior cognitive.

Students that are selected for these classes will be offered the choice of enrichment or regular academic settings. *(Please note that the enrichment classes are only offered at one time during the school day, therefore conflicts may arise with specific individual choices.)*

Creative Thinking and Visual and Performing Arts K-12

Bloom-Carroll Local School District seeks to identify students in both creative thinking ability and visual/performing arts. While we do not offer specific services for these areas, the Gifted Coordinator will assist parents and students who have been identified with educational options or information about special programs specific to a child's identification area.

Written Educational Plans (WEPs)

Bloom-Carroll Local School District provides Written Educational Plans (WEP) for all students receiving gifted services. The WEP lists the description of services, the annual goals, the teacher/staff responsible for service, and the date of review. Parents will receive a copy of the WEP at the end of the first semester. It is important to note that the WEP is not an IEP (Individualized Education Plan) and does not follow procedures outlined in federal law for special education.

District Contact Information

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