

POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2464/page 1 of 4
Gifted and Talented Students
Sept 20
M

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 95, 153, 161, 164, 211 and 221]

2464 GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to identify gifted and talented students within the school district and to provide these students with appropriate instructional adaptations and services. To that end, the Board directs each such student in the school district be identified and offered an appropriate educational program and services.

For purposes of this Policy, “gifted and talented students” means students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability in one or more content areas when compared to their chronological peers in the district and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities.

For the purpose of this Policy, “instructional adaptation” means an adjustment or modification to instruction enabling a student who is gifted and talented to participate in, benefit from, and demonstrate knowledge and application of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in one or more content areas at the instructional level of the student, not just the student’s grade level.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall ensure that the appropriate instructional adaptations are designed for students who are gifted and talented.

~~The Superintendent will develop appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used for gifted and talented students indicating content, process, products, and learning environments.~~

The Superintendent or designee will develop procedures for an ongoing Kindergarten through grade twelve identification process for gifted and talented students that includes multiple measures in order to identify student strengths in intellectual ability, creativity, or a specific academic area. The district shall ensure equal access to a continuum of gifted and talented education services. The identification process shall include consideration of all students, including those who are English language learners and those with Individualized Education Plans or 504 Plans. Multiple measures may include



Summary of Comments on GT BOE Policy 2020_1.pdf

Page: 1

Number: 1 Author: maruffo Subject: Sticky Note Date: 10/13/2020 9:14:13 PM

Dr. Silverstein -

The emboldened paragraphs are taken directly from New Jersey's newest gifted legislation. While we have done a good job in providing services for our identified students over these past 10 years, we still have more work to do. There are areas that I can identify that would address our various needs. An important step right now would be to begin collaborating with Dr. Preston and Mrs. Sheridan along with additional stakeholders across the district. This is especially necessary in identification of underrepresented populations, as identified in the last paragraph of the first page.

Number: 2 Author: maruffo Subject: Sticky Note Date: 10/13/2020 9:15:41 PM

I am interested in knowing why the paragraph on use of multiple measures in identification have been taken out - this is a key element in the new law.

POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2464/page 2 of 4
Gifted and Talented Students

~~but are not limited to: achievement test scores; grades; student performance or products; intelligence testing; parent, student, and/or teacher recommendation; and other appropriate measures. The identification methodology will be developmentally appropriate, non-discriminatory, and related to the programs and services offered by the district. The identification procedures will be reviewed annually.~~

The Superintendent or designee will develop and document appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used for gifted and talented students indicating content, process, products, and learning environment, and including, but not limited to, additional education activities such as academic competitions, guest speakers, and lessons with a specialist.

1

~~The Superintendent or designee will take into consideration the ~~Pre-Kindergarten through Grade Twelve~~ Gifted Programming Standards of the National Association for Gifted Children, Position Statements, and White Papers of the National Association for Gifted Children in identifying and serving gifted and talented students in developing programs for gifted and talented students. The educational program offered to gifted and talented students will encourage and challenge them in the specific areas of their abilities, but will not replace the basic instructional program of the various grades of this district. The program offered to gifted and talented students may include, but are not limited to: pull-out programs; classroom differentiated instruction; acceleration; flexible pacing; compacted curricula; distance learning; advanced classes; or individual programs infused into the student's regular instructional program, provided that a written description of the infusion has been prepared and filed in the student's record.~~

2

The district will provide the time and resources to develop, review, and enhance instructional tools with modifications for helping gifted and talented students acquire and demonstrate mastery of the required knowledge and skills specified by the standards at the instructional level of the student.

The district will actively assist and support professional development for teachers, educational services staff, and school leaders in the area of gifted and talented instruction.

3



Page: 2

Number: 1 Author: maruffo Subject: Sticky Note Date: 10/13/2020 9:17:44 PM

Over the years, we have demonstrated and continue to demonstrate these kinds of offerings. They came in the form of Odyssey of the Mind, Marsville, The Law Adventure Competition, The Stock Market Game and the ongoing Speaker Series that I do with 7th and 8th grade.

Number: 2 Author: maruffo Subject: Sticky Note Date: 10/13/2020 9:21:38 PM

In establishing a Focus Group for our GT program, we can begin to explore our identification methods in addition to the programs being offered. A continuum of services was mentioned previously and this is an important aspect of what we do, especially for future programming.

Number: 3 Author: maruffo Subject: Sticky Note Date: 10/13/2020 9:23:52 PM

Over the years, I have always received great support in the kind of PD that I wanted to acquire - this has served me and our students in so many ways. Increasing the amount of PD that is offered to our teachers is extremely important and hopefully something I can facilitate for our district.

POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2464/page 3 of 4
Gifted and Talented Students

The district shall file with the New Jersey Department of Education Coordinator for Gifted and Talented Services a report by October 1, 2020 and thereafter on a schedule that coincides with the school district's New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) review pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-11. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the gifted and talented continuum of services, policies, and procedures implemented in the school district; the total number of students receiving gifted and talented services in each grade level Kindergarten through grade twelve disaggregated by race, gender, special education designation, and English language learner designation; the professional development opportunities provided for teachers, educational services staff, and school leaders about gifted and talented students, their needs, and educational development; and the number of staff employed by the school district whose job responsibilities include identification of and providing services to gifted and talented students. Programs for gifted and talented students will be periodically evaluated for their continuing efficacy and adjusted accordingly.

The parent of any student identified as gifted or talented shall be consulted regarding any program designed to address the student's particular needs.

An individual who believes the district has not complied with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-34 et seq. may file a complaint with the Board of Education. This policy for filing a complaint shall be linked to the homepage of the Board's Internet website. The Board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the district's action in the matter. The individual may then file a petition of appeal of the Board's written decision to the Commissioner of Education through the Office of Controversies and Disputes in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-9 and the procedures set forth in State Board of Education regulations.



POLICY GUIDE

PROGRAM
2464/page 4 of 4
Gifted and Talented Students

The district shall make detailed information available on its website regarding the policies and procedures used to identify students as gifted and talented and the continuum of services offered to gifted and talented students. The information shall include the criteria used for consideration for eligibility for the gifted and talented services, including the multiple measures used in the identification process to match a student's needs with services, and any applicable timelines in the identification process.

N.J.S.A. 18A:61A-2; 18A:35-4.16; **18A:35-34 through 39**
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.3; 6A:8-3.1(a)5
P.L. 108-382, Sec. 10201 et seq.

Adopted:

