

Otsego Local Schools Board Policy – Gifted Education Services

In accordance with the belief that all children are entitled to education commensurate with their particular needs, children who are gifted in the district are provided opportunities to progress as their abilities permit. The Otsego Local Schools Board of Education believes that these children require services beyond those offered in regular school programs in order to realize their potential contribution to themselves and society.

Annually, professionally qualified persons using a variety of assessment procedures identify children who are gifted. The Board encourages efforts to provide services for the children who are gifted as an integral part of the total kindergarten through grade 12 program.

Identification

The district follows the identification eligibility criteria as specified in the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code.

- I. The district identifies children of the district, in grades kindergarten through twelve as gifted in one or more of the following areas:
 - A. Superior Cognitive Ability
 - B. Specific Academic Ability in one or more of the following content areas:
 1. Mathematics
 2. Science
 3. Reading, writing, or a combination of these skills
 4. Social Studies
 - C. Creative Thinking Ability
 - D. Visual or Performing Arts Ability such as drawing, painting, sculpting, music, dance, drama
- II. The district uses only those instruments approved by the Ohio Department of Education for screening, assessment, and identification of children who are gifted.

Identification Plan

The district adopts and submits to the Ohio Department of Education a plan for the screening, assessment, and identification of children who are gifted. Any revisions to the district plan are submitted to the Ohio Department of Education for approval. The identification plan includes the following:

- I. The criteria and methods the district uses to screen and select children for further assessment who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment in one of the gifted areas.
- II. The sources of assessment data the district uses to select children for further testing and an explanation to parents of the multiple assessment instruments required to identify children who are gifted.
- III. An explanation for parents/guardians of the methods the district uses to ensure equal access to screening and further assessment by all district children, culturally and linguistically diverse children, children from low socio-economic background, children with disabilities, and children for whom English is a second language.
- IV. The process of notifying parents regarding all policies and procedures concerning the screening, assessment, and identification of children who are gifted.
- V. Provision of opportunity for parents/guardians to appeal any decision about the results of any screening procedure or assessment, the scheduling of children for assessment, or the placement of a student in any program or for receipt of services.
- VI. Procedures for the assessment of children who transfer into the district.
- VII. At least two opportunities a year for assessment in the case of children requesting assessment or recommended for assessment by teachers, parents, or other children.

- VIII. The district's plan provides for the district to contract with any qualified public or private service provider to provide screening or assessment services under the plan.
- IX. The district accepts scores on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education provided by other school districts and trained personnel outside the school district.

Service Plan

The district adopts and submits to the Ohio Department of Education a plan for a continuum of services that is offered to students identified as gifted.

- I. The district ensures equal opportunity for all children identified as gifted to receive any or all services offered by the district.
- II. The district implements a procedure for withdrawal of children from district gifted services and for reassessment of children.
- III. The district implements a procedure for resolving disputes with regard to identification and placement decisions.
- IV. Any district gifted education services are delivered in accordance with Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code.
- V. The district informs parents of the contents of this policy as required by the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code.

Written Education Plans

Gifted services are based on a student's area(s) of identification and individual needs and is guided by a WEP (written education plan). The WEP is provided to parents of gifted students and educators responsible for providing gifted services. The WEP includes a description of services provided, goals for the student in each service specified, methods for evaluating progress toward achieving said goals and methods and schedule for progress reporting to parents/students. The WEP indicates staff members responsible for the delivery of specified services, policies regarding the waiver of assignments and scheduling of tests missed while a student is participating in any gifted services provided outside the general education classroom. Review and/or revision dates for the WEP are cited.

Gifted Education Personnel

Gifted education instruction is provided by gifted education intervention specialists in accordance with the Ohio Administrative Code. The instruction is offered during the regular school day; may be provided in large or small groups or individually in a variety of settings. The depth, breadth, and pace of instruction may be differentiated and instruction is based on appropriate content areas. If differentiated instruction is provided in a general education classroom, the teacher is either licensed in gifted education or has received professional development and ongoing assistance from gifted education staff. Gifted education coordinators provide the district with assistance in placing students, designing services, consulting on strategic planning, and evaluating services.

Annual Report and Accountability

- I. The district submits, as required, a gifted education annual report to the Ohio Department of Education.
- II. The district submits, as required, a gifted education data audit to the Ohio Department of Education.

The district superintendent or designee implements all policies and procedures in accordance with laws, rules, and regulations and follows the Ohio Administrative Code rules regarding gifted education.

Adopted on the 16th day of January 2001

Revised: 11/17/2005

Re-adoption Date: May 2009 Board Meeting

Signed: _____ President of Board

Signed: _____ Treasurer of Board

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3324.01
3324.02
3324.03
3324.04
3324.05
3324.06
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CROSS REF.: JB, Equal Educational Opportunities