

District Policy

2464- GIFTED AND TALENTED PUPILS (M)

Section: Program

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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 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.

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 environments, **and** including, but not limited to, additional education activities such as academic competitions, guest speakers, **and** lessons with a specialist.

The Superintendent or designee will take into consideration the **Gifted Programming Standards**, Position Statements, **and** White Papers of the National Association for **Gifted Children** in identifying **and** serving **gifted and talented** students.

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.

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.

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.

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