

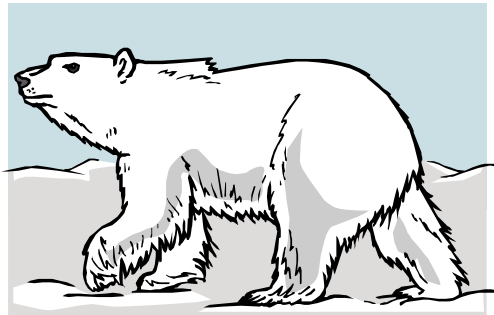
**Hardin Northern Local School District
11589 SR 81
Dola, OH 45835**

<http://www.hn.k12.oh.us>

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

Information for Parents

**Hardin Northern
Local School District**
(updated 2015)



IDENTIFICATION

The District uses a two part approach to the gifted identification of students who perform or show potential for performing at high levels of accomplishment in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and/or visual and/or performing arts ability.

The first stage screens students using standardized testing. District-determined test cut-off scores, to move students from the screening stage to the assessment stage, are lower than the scores necessary for identification. Parents must be notified within thirty days of the results of screening.

The second stage is assessment. Assessment strategies provide additional data necessary for an identification decision and the delivery of services. Strategies for additional assessment include individual and group testing. Once additional assessment has been completed, the data obtained throughout the two stages of identification is evaluated, the identification decision is made and students' educational needs are determined.

The District provides whole grade screening in 2nd grade. The District provides two opportunities a year for assessment in the case of children requesting assessment or recommended for assessment by teachers, parents, and other children. Children may be referred in writing, on an ongoing basis, to the classroom teacher, gifted intervention specialist, or administrator. Upon receipt of a referral from the child, teacher, parent/guardian, or peer and permission from the parent/guardian the District will assess a referred child and notify the parents of the assessment/ identification results.

The District assures that assessments used for gifted identification are valid for special populations and take into consideration the needs of students who are culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, have a disability or have limited English Proficiency. Tests will be administered in the student's native language and when necessary will reflect accurate aptitude/achievement for students with physical and sensory disabilities. All tests are administered by qualified personnel.

The District ensures that any child transferring into the District will be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the request of the parent to the building principal. The district accepts scores on assessment instruments, approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education, provided by other school districts and/or trained personnel outside the school district.

An appeal by the parent is the reconsideration of the results of the screening procedure, assessment instrument (which results in identification), and/or the scheduling of children for assessment. Parents should submit a letter to the building principal outlining the nature of the concern. The principal will convene a meeting with the parent/guardian, which may include other school personnel. The principal will issue a written final decision within 30 days of the appeal. This written notice shall include the reason for the decision(s).

SERVICES

The following services are delivered to gifted students at Hardin Northern Local School District:

- Differentiated instruction with the classroom teacher (grades 3 – 6) for Reading and Math. The criteria for service in math is Superior Cognitive Ability or identification in math. The criteria for service in reading is Superior Cognitive Ability or identification in reading.
- Acceleration – single subject/grade for students who have been referred through the district’s acceleration protocol.

In high school students may participate in Dual Enrollment classes including post-secondary education options with a college or university. The District ensures equal opportunity for all students identified as gifted to receive services offered by the district.

If at anytime, a student wishes to withdraw from the gifted program or services, the request shall be written by the parent to the building administrator. If a child requests to withdraw, parents will be notified.

An appeal by the parent is the reconsideration of the results of placement of a student in any program and the receipt of services. Parents should submit a letter to the building principal outlining the nature of the concern. The principal will convene a meeting with the parent/guardian, which may include other school personnel. The principal will issue a written final decision within 30 days of the appeal. This written notice shall include the reason for the decision(s).

WRITTEN EDUCATION PLANS

For each gifted student being served in his/her area(s) of giftedness written education plans (WEP) will be completed, sent to parents for review and signature(s), and placed in the student’s file. WEPs are reviewed at the beginning of each school year.

The following information will be found on the WEP:

- Areas of identification,
- Service delivery methods,
- Protocol for the waiver of assignments,
- WEP reviewers’ signatures,
- Student goals, instructional strategies, and evaluation methods, and
- Student progress report sections which are completed at the end of each nine weeks and sent to parents.