THE GIFTED PROGRAM REFERRAL & IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

STEP 1- Referral

Anyone can initiate a Gifted Program Referral for services: parents/guardians, teachers, principals, classified staff, or students themselves. To make a referral, contact the Gifted Coordinator and you will be sent the forms to complete and return to the Gifted Coordinator. Referral forms are also available at each school site and at the district Gifted Program webpage.



Transfer students identified as gifted will have transfer test scores and educational profile reviewed to determine continued eligibility or to determine if additional data is needed through testing.

STEP 2- Data Collection & Review



Once referred, the Gifted Coordinator will begin collecting information about each student referred for identification. A Parent Input Form will be sent home for parents to complete and return. The student's teacher will complete a Teacher Input Form. Students will complete their own Student Input Form. An educational profile for each student is developed. This includes state testing, grades, and district achievement testing. After a review of the data collected, a recommendation for gifted services or gifted testing will be made.

STEP 3- Formal Evaluation.

Students recommended for gifted testing are given the CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) to help determine eligibility. This tests a student's ability to reason using words (verbal), numbers (quantitative) and pictures (non-verbal). Some students are given the NNAT3 (Naglieri Nonverbal Abilities Test), which also determines reasoning abilities. This test uses only pictures and is beneficial for ELL, ESS and "at-risk" students.

Step 4- Eligibility Determination

Testing results data and student educational profiles will be used to help determine if gifted services are needed. To qualify for gifted services, students must test at or above the 90th percentile or test within "highly proficient" on approved standardized state tests (AASA, AzSCI, ACT Aspire, ACT).



Step 5- Annual Review

Gifted students' annual state and district assessments (AASA, AzSCI, ACT Aspire, and ACT), along with grades and student input, will be used to determine continuation of gifted services.