

# NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## *Administrative Offices*

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### Local Superintendent

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### Assistant Superintendent

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### Board of Education

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Julie L. Smith

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May 11, 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The following is an update to “Gifted” requirements and plans for the upcoming school year.

The State of Ohio adopted new requirements for testing students for the purposes of gifted identification. As a result, our district is required to conduct two whole grade testing sessions. One test must occur in the grade band K-2 and another must occur in the grade band 3-6. Referral testing is always available in Grades K-12. Note: You always have the choice to exempt your child from whole grade “gifted” testing.

Our district schedule for “whole grade” testing is as follows (2020-2021 and 2021-22):

- Superior Cognitive – Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)
- Creative Thinking – CogAT with GATES 2 checklist, questions 21-31
- Specific Academic in Mathematics, Reading, Total English Language Arts, Science & Social Studies. We will use the Iowa Complete Battery Form E, Levels 8 & 10 for Grade 2 and 4. Testing for 2020-21 and 2021-22 in Grades Second and Fourth will be in October.

To determine eligibility for gifted education services, students who achieve sufficient scores from the above tests will receive services in the following ways during the 2020-21 and 2021-2022 school years.

- Grades 3, 4 & 5, Cluster Group Classroom with services provided by a General Education Teacher that has the required professional development in gifted education and support from an educator with gifted licensure. Students will have Written Education Plans.
- Grade 8, cluster Group Classroom with Advanced Course Work in Algebra I for high school credit with services provided by an educator with gifted licensure/required professional development and high school licensure. Students will have Written Education Plans.
- High School Advanced Placement & Dual Credit courses taught by a General Education Teacher that has the required professional development in gifted education and support from an educator with gifted licensure. Students will have Written Education Plans.
- High School College Credit Plus courses qualify as “gifted” services. Students will have Written Education Plans.

Upon conclusion of “whole grade” testing and evaluation of results, parents will be notified, in writing if the student met the qualified score to receive gifted services.

If you have further questions, contact Mrs. Terri Freeman @ 740-259-5558 ext. 4110