



NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices

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A. Todd Jenkins, Superintendent

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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 (2021-22 and 2022-2023):

- 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 2021-22 and 2022-23 in Grades Second and Fourth will be in October.
- ACT test for Juniors will also be used to identify “gifted” students.

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 2021-22 and 2022-2023 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.
- Grades 6 & 7, 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. Services contingent on teachers obtaining required professional development. 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.

Our complete Gifted Plan is available on our district website at <https://www.nwmohawks.org/FederalRequirements.aspx>

If you have any questions, please contact Terri Freeman at 740-259-5558