

Regulation

GIFTED AND TALENTED

A. Identification and Selection

1. Classroom teachers will be familiar with the criteria for identifying gifted and talented students and will be alert to students who exhibit those criteria and will communicate this information to administration.
2. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction will review the cumulative files of all students in grades Kindergarten through eight against the criteria for identifying gifted and talented students. The review will include consideration of intelligence ratings, classroom achievements, the results of standardized testing, and teaching staff member observation reports.
3. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction will confer with past and present teachers of any student identified in the review of files.

B. Criteria for Eligibility, Probation and Reconsideration

1. Criteria for ACE's

Eligibility for the ACE's program is contingent multiple measures as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1(a)5:

- a. Cognitive Abilities Test, and
- b. Other measures of academic achievement such as grades and/or standardized assessments, as deemed appropriate by the district.

All students in Franklin Lakes Public Schools are tested for entry into ACES at the end of Grade 3 and Grade 5. Only students who first enter the District in other grades are offered consideration in Grades 4, 6, 7, or 8.

District qualifications for participation in the ACES program take cognitive skills and academic achievement into consideration.

Multiple measures used for consideration:

- A cognitive achievement test (the CogAT) is used as an indicator of cognitive skill levels, assessing students in three areas of reasoning: verbal, non-verbal, and quantitative).
- A student's report card grades (Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science) for all marking periods from the most recent school year, given by a child's teacher and based on consistent expectations and grading practices as outlined in our District Report Card Rubrics for grades K-5 (please see link below to access report card rubrics), are used as indicators of academic achievement. **Students can qualify by earning:** 1. A CogAT composite score of 130 or higher and report card grades for all marking periods from the most recent school year for all subject areas that indicate meeting or exceeding grade level expectations for all main grade indicators (3, B) and supportive indicators (+, *) for Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. ***CogAT retesting is only offered in the following situation: Students who score 122-129 and have report card grades from all marking periods of the most recent school year for all subject areas that indicate meeting or exceeding grade***

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*level expectations for all main grade indicators and supportive indicators (see above) are offered the opportunity to take the CogAT a second time in the chance that they can reach a score of 130. CogAT retesting is offered to these students in September. **Report Card Rubrics can be accessed at:** http://curriculum-and.districtweb.franklinlakes.k12.nj.us/modules/locker/files/group_files.phtml?parent=12986907&gid=2146613&sessionid=e698e20bb9e02045d26bc3a047420df2*

C. Program

1. When a student has been identified as gifted or talented, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction will confer with the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) on the goals of the student's program and secure the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) cooperation and permission for the student's participation in the program.
2. The enrichment needs of gifted and talented students can be met through a wide variety of activities and teaching strategies; the program content will be individually prescribed and based on students' unique interests and talents.
3. Each student's program will seek to involve the student in all subject areas that can provide growth and stimulation in higher cognitive processes such as interpretation, extrapolation, translation, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.
4. No enrichment program will replace the basic instructional program appropriate to the student's grade level.
5. The enriched educational program for a gifted or talented student may consist of one or more of the following:
 - a. Additional classroom studies and assignments,
 - b. Special classes in appropriate studies,
 - c. Out-of-class sessions and/or
 - d. Supervised independent projects in after-school sessions.
6. A classroom teacher may provide for the needs of gifted and talented students by:
 - a. Presenting content material that is related to broad-based issues, themes, or problems,
 - b. Integrating multiple disciplines into the study area,
 - c. Allowing for in-depth learning of a topic selected by the student within the study area,
 - d. Developing the student's independent and self-directed study skills,
 - e. Developing research skills and methods,
 - f. Integrating higher level thinking skills into the curriculum,
 - g. Focusing on open-ended tasks,
 - h. Using new techniques, materials, and forms,
 - i. Encouraging the development of self-understanding, and
 - j. Encouraging self-appraisal and evaluation.

D. Exit Procedures

1. Each student identified as gifted or talented will be assessed annually for the continuing appropriateness of his/her enriched program. Assessment will include:

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- a. Interviews with the student, the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and teaching staff members educationally responsible for the student,
 - b. Review of the student's file, including relevant test results, and
 - c. Review of the student's work in the preceding school year.
2. The program will be revised as required to meet the student's needs and interests.
3. The student may be withdrawn from the gifted and talented program when:
 - a. The student's academic record indicates a decline in performance,
 - b. The student wishes to withdraw and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) consents to withdrawal, or
 - c. The student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) requests withdrawal.
4. A decision to withdraw a student from the gifted and talented program will be made by the student's classroom teacher, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and, where appropriate, the student.

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