



MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT



GIFTED/TALENTED PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

NOMINATION PROCESS: Students may be nominated by parents, teachers, peers, or by themselves at any time during the school year. Any nomination places the student in the talent pool. Being placed in the talent pool does not mean that the student will be placed in the G/T program. Being placed in the talent pool means that further information will be collected to determine if the student is eligible for placement in the G/T program. As there is no cut-off score pertaining to the acceptance of a student in the talent pool, data will be gathered on all nominations regardless of test scores.

A student may also be placed in the talent pool (nominated) if he/she scores at the 90th percentile on certain areas of the norm referenced test required by the state of Arkansas, or scores “Advanced” on any area of the state benchmark exam. After parent/guardian permission for GT screening is received, further information will then be obtained from parents and teachers of any student who is in the talent pool.

INFORMATION USED IN IDENTIFICATION: Information and scores used for identification may come from, but is not limited to, the following sources: Norm referenced test required by the state of Arkansas, Arkansas Benchmark Exams, Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test, STAR, Williams Creativity Test, Parent Nominations, Teacher Nominations, Peer Nominations, Self Nominations, Parent Ratings, and Teacher Ratings.

NO STUDENT WILL BE INDIVIDUALLY TESTED WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT.

NO STUDENT MAY BE PLACED IN THE G/T PROGRAM WITHOUT HAVING TAKEN A TEST FOR CREATIVITY.

IDENTIFICATION: Selection of students for the G/T program is the task of the Identification Committee which consists of at least five members chaired by a trained specialist in gifted education and including administrators, teachers, and/or counselors. Mountain View School District uses a blind screening process in determining eligibility for its G/T program. The G/T building teacher assigns a number to each child in the talent pool. That number will go on the child’s profile instead of their name. When the identification committee reviews the profiles, the members of the committee will not know whose it is. This gives each child the same opportunity, reduces any perceived teacher biases, and should increase the public’s trust in the selection process. However, an advocacy component in the blind screen selection process will be utilized to reexamine students who may need special services but were not identified in the initial selection process. (See Advocacy)

After all information is collected, the committee will review the collected data and determine whether the student’s needs are being met in the regular classroom, or if services through the G/T program are necessary to meet that student’s needs. Parents of students will be notified of the committee’s decision. If the committee’s decision is that a student is in need of G/T program services, then written parental consent for placement will be requested. If parental consent is granted, the student will be placed in an appropriate program.

NO STUDENT WILL BE PLACED IN THE G/T PROGRAM WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT.

ADVOCACY: If there is a student who is talented in an area which will not be measured by achievement or school ability tests (i.e. art or music), a person qualified to determine the extent of that student's abilities may be asked to give an opinion as to whether or not that student needs special services.

APPEALS PROCESS: The parent of a non-identified student has the right to appeal the Identification Committee's decision in writing within 10 days of receiving notification of the committee's decision.

- 1) The parent must submit a signed written appeal to the GT building administrator that contains specific reasons for the appeal and any additional information which might be helpful in a review of the placement decision.
- 2) The GT building administrator will present any new information to the Placement Committee for evaluation along with the data used during the initial placement meeting.
- 3) The Identification Committee will come to a consensus as to whether the student should or should not receive GT services.
- 4) The parent will be notified of the committee's decision.
- 5) The decision of the Identification Committee will be final with the understanding that future data (e.g. test scores, work samples, grades, etc.) may provide reason to reconsider student placement.

FOR INFORMATION: For more information about the G/T program, contact your local school.