

Resources

WEBSITES:

www.hoagiesgifted.org

- a website which lists gifted resources and information. It has sections for parents, students and teachers. Many web links are catered to students' interest.

www.oagc.com

- the official website of Ohio Association for Gifted Children. This site contains comprehensive information pertinent to Ohio with multiple links to other sites.

www.nagc.org

- the official website of National Association for Gifted Children. This site contains links to research and articles in reference to gifted education.

www.supersaturday.org

- a quality enrichment program for gifted children 4-14 in the Greater Cincinnati area. Students attend two-hour classes on Saturday during the Fall, Winter or Spring terms. Super Saturday offers classes both in the morning and early afternoon. Children may sign up for one, two, or three terms a year and are free to take classes both in the morning and afternoon, if they wish.

www.mindwareonline.com

- a popular website for critical thinking books and games. Many family friendly games and books are located on this site.

BOOKS:

- Delisle, J., & Galbraith, J. (1987)

The Gifted Kids Survival Guide II

Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing

- Berger, S. (1994)

College Planning for Gifted Students (2nd ed.)

- Galbraith, J. (1984)

The Gifted Kids Survival Guide for Ages 10 & Under

Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing

- Galbraith, J. (1983)

The Gifted Kids Survival Guide for Ages 11-18

Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing

- Walker, Sally Yahnke (2002, 1991)

The Survival Guide for Parents of Gifted Kids: How to Understand, Live With, and Stick Up for Your Gifted Child (Paperback)

Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing

These resources are not necessarily endorsed by Northwest Local School District. Additionally, this is not a complete list of resources appropriate for parents of all gifted children.



Academic Center of Creative Enrichment for Student Success

Northwest Local School District
Curriculum/Gifted Education Office
3240 Banning Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

Phone: 513-923-1000 ext. 3920
12/11

The Northwest Local School District

A Parent's Guide to Elementary Gifted Services



Learning is not a spectator sport.
-- Anonymous

Education is more than filling a child with facts. It starts with posing questions.
-- D.T. Max

How does Northwest provide elementary gifted services?

The Northwest Local School District is committed to assisting gifted students in reaching their academic potential. Gifted students need guidance in order to excel and develop their exceptional abilities. The Northwest Local School District provides a full time gifted intervention specialist at each elementary building. Formal gifted services are offered in the form of Elementary ACCESS and advanced math clusters in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade to gifted identified students. The gifted intervention specialist in each building also works collaboratively with the classroom teachers to plan strategies that are personalized to the academic and social-emotional needs of high ability students.

What will my child study?

The Northwest Local School District's gifted education program provides enrichment in reading and math. Since gifted education students are very capable cognitively, they are able to progress at a more advanced pace. This allows for mastery of standards, as well as increased depth and breadth of instruction. As a result,

students have the opportunity to meet district requirements, as well as increase their higher levels of thinking skills.

Various unique units of study provide the structure for teaching critical thinking skills. Instruction includes unique project based learning.

When and where will gifted services take place?

Gifted services in reading are provided through the ACCESS program to students who are identified as gifted in reading and/or superior cognitive ability. The ACCESS program will take place each day during a designated intervention/enrichment block at each elementary school. Every effort is made to ensure that the students attending the ACCESS program do not miss other academic classes that may result in additional work or assignments. If and when scheduling conflicts occur within a specific building, they are addressed at the building level with parent input.

Gifted services in math are provided through a cluster grouping model to students who are identified as gifted in math and/or superior cognitive ability. Cluster grouping is an educational process in which at least four to six gifted and talented and/or high achieving students are assigned to an otherwise heterogeneous classroom within their grade to be instructed by a teacher who is receiving specialized training in differentiating for gifted learners.

What is the Written Education Plan (WEP)?

For each ACCESS or advance math cluster participant, a written education plan, which may be amended as needed, will be designed with input from students and parents. The plan will include: description of services, individual student goals, methods for evaluating progress toward goals, delivery of services, and the policy regarding waiver of assignments and rescheduling of assessments.

The student's progress is assessed periodically and communicated with parents at least twice a year. The success of the WEP is enhanced by the collective efforts between the student, teacher, and parent.

What if gifted services Are not right for my child?

Every effort is made to place students in appropriate learning environments. Careful evaluation is made for each student. The work within the program is designed to challenge the students cognitively and increase their knowledge; therefore, the students may find that it now takes additional time for them to complete their assignments. Written withdrawal procedures have been developed which provide parents and/or teachers the opportunity to re-evaluate the student's placement and make necessary adjustments.