

- Procedure Number: 615
  - Procedure Name: Gifted Education
  - Date of Original: 2001 11 14
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**Gifted Education**

1. Schools will identify and monitor students who meet Ministry of Education criteria as Gifted Learners.
  - a. Giftedness is defined as “demonstrated or potential abilities which give evidence of exceptionally high capability with respect to intellect, creativity, or the skills associated with specific disciplines.” (Ministry of Education, Special Education Services, Manual of Policies, Procedures and Guidelines)
  - b. Referral of students with extraordinary ability is to be made through the school-based team process.
  - c. Every effort should be made to ensure that referrals are unbiased with regard to gender, language, culture, physical ability, learning disability, and social skills.
  - d. No single criterion is to be used to establish services for gifted students.
  - e. Identification will be based on a combination of the following:
    - i. interviews;
    - ii. projects/portfolios;
    - iii. observations by teachers, parents, peers, self, and others;
    - iv. assessments of academic, creative, cognitive and social-emotional strengths; and
    - v. demonstrated excellence in one or more of the following: leadership, visual and performing arts, athletics, academic activities in the school and/or the community and thinking strategies.
  - f. Once a student is identified, and a decision to intervene is made, it is required that the student has an up to date Individual Education Plan in place.
2. Programming should include goals set by the student, parent and classroom teacher and allow for:
  - a. intellectual, creative, personal and social (including counseling and education in self-advocacy), and career development;
  - b. consideration of activities the student may already be involved with in the home or community;
  - c. consideration of transitions between elementary and middle school years and middle school to high school.
3. The District will support these students by providing staff development which may include the following:
  - a. raising awareness in the district of the needs and development of gifted students;
  - b. methods for identifying the gifted that have a low impact on the classroom teacher in terms of administration;
  - c. identification of gifted students who are hidden or masked;
  - d. education, awareness and resource orientation for parents.
4. District #64 will make available a handbook to all schools detailing program and curriculum design for the gifted.