

**The Gifted Program  
Handbook  
For  
Teachers & Parents  
2020-2021**



**Superintendent- Dr. Andy Kohl  
Director of Gifted Program-Ms. Shelbie Dalton**

**Teachers of the Gifted  
Mrs. Kelly Workman, Grades 3-5  
Mrs. Cyndi Allen, Grades 6-8**

**Board Approved – August 18, 2020**

# **GIFTED PROGRAMS IN THE WARRENSBURG R-VI SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **I. PHILOSOPHY**

The gifted students in the Warrensburg R-VI School District represent an identified group of students whose learning styles and thinking dimensions require experiences and instruction beyond the standard curriculum. An educational program for gifted students shall identify their unique capabilities, and provide enrichment which encourages them to explore those capabilities.

Educators bear the responsibility of knowing the total gifted child and need to understand personal needs and anxieties as well as achievement competencies in order to facilitate growth. We need to create a warmly responsive, non-threatening climate in the classroom. We need to help others who have shared with educating these gifted children to understand and utilize teaching strategies involving higher thought processes. It becomes our responsibility to prepare these future leaders for a rapidly changing world where facts become outdated before printed; where learning how to learn, how to adapt and change and relying on process rather than static knowledge are highly significant factors in determining educational goals for the gifted and talented.

## **II. Goals**

### **District CSIP Goals**

- I. Develop and enhance quality educational/instructional programs to improve student performance and enable students to meet their personal, academic and career goals.
- II. Recruit, attract, develop and retain highly qualified staff to carry out the LEA (local educational agency)/District mission, goals, and objectives.
- III. Provide and maintain appropriate instructional resources, support services, and functional and safe facilities.
- IV. Promote, facilitate, and enhance parent, student, and community involvement in LEA/District educational programs.
- V. Govern the LEA/District in an efficient and effective manner providing leadership and representation to benefit the students, staff, and patrons of the district.

### **Student Goals**

#### **Development of:**

- \*Creativity
- \*Independence
- \*Individual research techniques
- \*Social awareness and individuality
- \*Oral and written communication skills
- \*Self-direction and commitment to tasks
- \*Thinking skills for orderly and analytical reasoning
- \*Awareness and interest beyond the classroom curriculum
- \*Higher level thinking skills (analysis, synthesis, evaluation)
- \*An understanding and appreciation of divergent thoughts, ideas, and solutions.

### III. NEW IDENTIFICATION GUIDELINES AS OF JUNE 2015

A. The following criteria shall be used in screening and placement of students for The Gifted Program (GP):

|                              | <b>Evaluation Instrument</b>  | <b>Placement Criteria</b>   | <b>Notes</b>  |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>STEP ONE (screening)</b>  | All 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade students will be screened using the SAGES screening tool                          | 80% or above on at least two of the three components of the SAGES | If met, then proceed to STEP TWO.   |
| <b>STEP TWO</b>              | <u>Intelligence Testing:</u><br>WISC-V  | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the full-scale IQ         | If a student does meet the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile on the intelligence test, proceed to STEP THREE, achievement testing. <b>This criterion must be met to continue further testing to determine eligibility for the gifted program.</b> |
| <b>STEP THREE</b>            | <u>Achievement Testing:</u><br>KTEA   | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above                              | If a student doesn't meet the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile but scores between 90-94 <sup>th</sup> percentile on the KTEA, they are eligible to take a creativity test.   |
| <b>STEP FOUR (if needed)</b> | <u>Creativity, Reasoning and Problem Solving Ability Instrument:</u><br>Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above                              | A student must have a score of 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above on at least one section of the creativity test to qualify.  |

\*\* Re-screening and/or testing may occur at the end of 4<sup>th</sup> grade if a student was previously tested and received a score above 85% on the WISC-V and a referral is made by the student's parent and/or teacher. Re-screening and/or testing may also be considered if a recommendation is made by the educational team.

### III. IDENTIFICATION GUIDELINES (Graduating classes of 2021-2025)

- A. The following criteria shall be used in screening and placement of students who were not screened in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade due to a change in gifted programming in June of 2015 (includes graduating classes of 2021 to 2025):

|   | <b>Evaluation Instrument</b>  | <b>Placement Criteria</b>   | <b>Notes</b>   |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>STEP ONE (screening)</b>             | Teacher and/or Parent Referral Form/Rating Scale  |   |  |
| <b>STEP TWO-A (screening)</b>           | Review Academic Grades  | B average   | Students must first meet this criterion to be further considered for the Gifted Program. If met, proceed to step TWO-B.  |
| <b>STEP TWO-B (screening continued)</b> | Most current Terra Nova MAP scores or other criterion-referenced tests.<br><br><i>(If Terra Nova scores are not available on MAP, proficiency rating will be used.)</i> | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile on one or more of the criterion-referenced or nationally-normed tests<br><br><i>(Proficiency rating must be in the “advanced” category)</i> | If met, then proceed to STEP THREE, intelligence testing.  |
| <b>STEP THREE</b>                       | <u>Intelligence Testing:</u><br>WISC-V  | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the full-scale IQ   | If a student does meet the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile on the intelligence test, proceed to STEP FOUR, achievement testing. <b>This criterion must be met to continue further testing to determine eligibility for the gifted program.</b> |
| <b>STEP FOUR</b>                        | <u>Achievement Testing:</u><br>KTEA   | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above  | If a student doesn't meet the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile but scores between 90-94 <sup>th</sup> percentile on the KTEA, they are eligible to take a creativity test.  |
| <b>STEP FIVE (if needed)</b>            | <u>Creativity, Reasoning and Problem Solving Ability Instrument:</u><br>Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking   | 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above  | They must have a score of 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile or above on at least one section of the creativity test to qualify.  |



B. Evaluation of Student Progress:

- Elementary  
Communication about student progress will be sent home periodically.
- Middle School  
Gifted Program grades are included on the grade card each quarter.

C. Regular Classroom Work (Elementary only):

- When students are out of their regular classroom attending the gifted program class, they are responsible for the **CONCEPTS** presented in class, but are not required to complete all written assignments. Students will read any assignments and complete work deemed necessary by the classroom teacher in order to demonstrate understanding of concepts.
- Students are responsible for long-term assignments.
- Arrangements will be made with the classroom teacher to make up any test missed.
- Teacher will provide a copy of notes given in class if there are topics covered not provided in the textbook.

## VI. PROBATION/DISMISSAL

Conferences may be scheduled with the classroom teacher, gifted teacher, parents, student, building administrator and director of the gifted program if a student continually falls behind in the regular classroom. A decision to remain in the gifted program or a success plan for the student may be made at this time.

A. **Behavior:**

The discipline guidelines specified in the building handbook will be followed in the gifted classroom.

B. **Exiting the program:**

If a parent decides to remove a student from the gifted program, the parent will need to complete the appropriate form and communicate with the respective gifted teacher, building principal and the Director of the Gifted Program, Ms. Shelbie Dalton. The director may be reached at Warrensburg R-VI Central Office, 747-7823. The director will request the parent to complete a parent questionnaire for discontinuing the gifted program. A conference may also be requested. After a voluntary exit, a student may reenter the gifted program a maximum of one time in Grades 3 – 8.