

## **GIFTED EDUCATION**

### **Background**

The Mt. Lebanon School District recognizes that students who have been identified as mentally gifted are entitled to receive a free appropriate instructional program to meet their educational needs. The District shall provide a gifted education program designed to meet the educational needs of each gifted student and complies with the requirements of Chapter 16 of the Department's regulations on Special Education for Gifted Students.

### **Objective**

It is the objective of this Policy to ensure that the District complies with the requirements of Chapter 16 as they relate to the requirement that school districts adopt a policy relating to caseloads and class sizes for gifted students and gifted teachers.

### **Definitions**

**Gifted Teacher.** Teachers who provide "pull-out" services to gifted students. The District does not currently employ any gifted teachers.

**Gifted Student.** Shall mean a student of school age with an IQ of 130 or higher who meets established multiple criteria indicating gifted ability or a school-aged student with an IQ lower than 130 when educational criteria strongly indicate gifted ability. For purposes of this definition, any determination of mentally gifted status shall include an assessment by a certified school psychologist.

### **Policy**

In the event that the District should begin to deliver services to gifted students through the use and employment of gifted teachers in a pull-out program, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall develop and implement procedures, in conjunction with the building principals and other appropriate school personnel, to annually assess the delivery of gifted education within the District in order to:

1. Ensure the ability of assigned staff to provide the services required in each identified student's Gifted Individualized Education Program.

2. Address the educational placements for gifted students within the District.
3. Limit the total number of gifted students that can be on an individual gifted teacher's caseload to a maximum of sixty-five (65) students.
4. Limit the total number of gifted students that can be on an individual gifted teacher's class roster to a maximum of twenty (20) students.

Notwithstanding the above, the District shall have the right to make a written request to the Secretary of Education to waive the applicable caseload and class size maximums in extenuating circumstances.

#### Administration Responsibilities

The administration shall develop regulations or procedures as may be needed to implement this policy.

#### Communication

This policy shall be communicated to all appropriate personnel.

Adopted November 19, 2001  
Revised October 16, 2017