# Bridgewater-Raritan Regional School District
# Gifted and Talented Programs

**An overview presented by:**
**David Michael Matonis**
**Supervisor of Special Programs K-12; District Test Coordinator**
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# Five Distinct Programs

- Academically Independent classes (AI)
- Grade 4 Accelerated Mathematics class
- Enrichment classes (E) in Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies
- Honors level classes (High School)
- Advanced Placement level classes (High School)

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# BRRSD
# Academically Independent (AI) Program

**A Gifted and Talented Program**

**Grades 2 - 5**

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# What is the AI Program?

- <u>Accelerated</u> and enriched curricula in
  - Mathematics
  - English Language Arts and Reading
- Ability grouping for the entire day
- Students are essentially “skipping” a grade, while remaining with their age-matched peers
- Multiple criteria used for selection
  - Cognitive ability
  - Performance on academic assessments
  - Teacher input

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# Common Characteristics of AI/E Students

- **Independence**
- **Ability to:**
  - **analyze abstractly**
  - **learn at a quick rate**
  - **grasp advanced mathematical and linguistic concepts**
  - **focus for long periods of time**
  - **persevere on challenging tasks**

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# Common Characteristics of AI/E Students

- take initiative in a leadership role
- advanced receptive and expressive language skills
- re-contextualize knowledge
- age-sophisticated verbal skills
- unusually creative and original imagination
- intense curiosity and observational skills
- good memory (short-term, working, long-term)

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# Common Characteristics of AI/E Students

- **The AI classes are designed for students who demonstrate that their learning needs in BOTH English Language Arts and Mathematics are beyond the range of grade-level differentiation for challenge.**
- **Within every grade level and every class section within a grade level, a range of ability exists. *As such, the possibility exists that a student might be the highest performing student in a particular grade level class, but not qualify for AI placement.***

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# How does the AI classroom differ from other classrooms?

- The AI classes complete the curriculum in English Language Arts of the next grade level.
- The AI classes complete a compacted grade level/one year accelerated grade level mathematics curriculum.
- In grade 5, the AI ELA and Math curricula and the E Program ELA and Math curricula are identical.
- In grade 6, the E Math curriculum is Pre-Algebra.
  - By grade 6, the AI/E students are accelerated by 2 years.
  - Students currently enrolled in grade 5 AI in good academic standing automatically “roll-up” into all four grade 6 E classes.

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# Where are the AI classrooms located?

- **Current school year:**
  - **AI classes for grades 2-4 are located at Hamilton Primary School**
  - **AI and E classes for grade 5 are located at both Hillside and Eisenhower Intermediate Schools**

# What are the AI Placement Criteria?

- **Measures of Academic Progress (MAP): a computerized adaptive multiple choice assessment in reading, language usage, and mathematics**
- **District Writing Sample**
- **Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT): Multiple-choice-based assessment provides information regarding abstract conceptualization in relationship to age and grade-level.**
  - **CogAT Form 7**
    - **Level 8: *Students applying for grade 2 AI***
    - **Level 9: *Students applying for grade 3 AI***
    - **Level 10: *Students applying for grade 4 AI***
    - **Level 11: *Students applying for grade 5 AI***
- **Teacher Input regarding the frequency of observable classroom characteristics such as independence, advanced articulation, and concept application.**

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# More Information about MAP and CogAT

Additional information regarding the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments can be found at:

- NWEA.org
  - https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/
- Students are administered:
  - MAP for Reading
  - MAP for Language Usage
  - MAP for Mathematics
- Each test is about an hour long, but is untimed.

Additional information regarding the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) can be found at:

- Riverside Publishing

  https://www.riversideinsights.com/solutions/cogat?tab=0

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# MAP Scores and the District Matrices

The BRRSD AI Program placement matrices use a quality point system. The qualifying benchmark score is represented by 3 quality points and a MAP score in the 95$^{th}$ percentile nationally. In order to account for standard error relative to this score and variation in student performance, the matrices allow for a range of scores below the qualifying benchmark score and associates them with fewer quality points.

**As such, an appeals process is already built into the system.** Students who do not meet the qualifying benchmark score in an area are still given consideration if the required quality points are earned via higher performance in other areas.

Understanding the function of the matrices is important. For grade 2 AI placement, a 95$^{th}$ percentile MAP Reading score of 195 is the benchmark (3). The automatic appeals process provided by the matrix allows a student with a score of 186 (84$^{th}$ percentile) to be eligible, if together with the other scores the required quality point total is earned.

Therefore, a score below 186 is outside of the automatic appeal range. A score of 185, for example, is not 1 point away from the required score, but rather 9 points away.

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# 2nd Grade AI Criteria for 2020-2021

| Grade 2 | Quality Points | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| CogAT NPR (grade or age) | **99%** | 98% | 97% | < or = 96% |
| CogAT SAS | **> or = 135** | 133-134 | 129-132 | < or = 128 |
| MAP Reading Score | **> or = 195** | 191-194 | 186-190 | < or = 185 |
| MAP Language Usage Score | **> or = 197** | 192-196 | 187-191 | < or = 186 |
| MAP Mathematics Score | **> or = 197** | 193-196 | 188-192 | < or = 187 |
| Teacher input % | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Writing Sample % Score | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |

- The **bold** score represents the desired benchmark score, and the lowest score in the column with 1 quality point represents the lowest possible score that is considered for eligibility.
- The student is not eligible for consideration if both CogAT % and SAS yield 0 quality points.
- The student must receive at least 1 quality point in one of the ELA categories and in the math category.
- **A total of 14 points is required.**

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# 3rd Grade AI Criteria for 2020-2021

| Grade 3 | Quality Points | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| CogAT NRP (grade or age) | **99%** | 98% | 97% | < or = 96% |
| CogAT SAS | **> or = 135** | 133-134 | 129-132 | < or = 128 |
| MAP Reading Score | **> or = 210** | 205-209 | 200-204 | < or = 199 |
| MAP Language Usage Score | **> or = 211** | 206-210 | 201-205 | < or = 200 |
| MAP Mathematics Score | **> or = 209** | 204-208 | 200-203 | < or = 199 |
| Teacher input % | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Writing Sample % Score | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |

- The **bold** score represents the desired benchmark score, and the lowest score in the column with 1 quality point represents the lowest possible score that was considered for eligibility.
- The student is not eligible for consideration if both CogAT % and SAS yield 0 quality points.
- The student must receive at least 1 quality point in one of the ELA categories and in the math category.
- **A total of 14 points is required.**

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# 4th Grade AI Criteria for 2020-2021

| Grade 4 | Quality Points | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| CogAT NRP (grade or age) | **99%** | 98% | 97% | < or = 96% |
| CogAT SAS | **> or = 135** | 133-134 | 129-132 | < or = 128 |
| MAP Reading Score | **> or = 222** | 217-221 | 212-216 | < or = 211 |
| MAP Language Usage Score | **> or = 220** | 216-219 | 211-215 | < or = 210 |
| MAP Mathematics Score | **> or = 219** | 216-218 | 212-215 | < or = 211 |
| Teacher input % | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Writing Sample % Score | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |

- The **bold** score represents the desired benchmark score, and the lowest score in the column with 1 quality point represents the lowest possible score that was considered for eligibility.
- The student is not eligible for consideration if both CogAT % and SAS yield 0 quality points.
- The student must receive at least 1 quality point in one of the ELA categories and in the math category.
- **A total of 14 points is required.**

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# 5th Grade AI Criteria for 2020-2021

| Grade 5 | Quality Points | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| CogAT NRP (grade or age) | **99%** | 98% | 97% | < or = 96% |
| CogAT SAS | **> or = 135** | 133-134 | 129-132 | < or = 128 |
| MAP Reading Score | **> or = 230** | 225-229 | 220-224 | < or = 219 |
| MAP Language Usage Score | **> or = 227** | 223-226 | 218-222 | < or = 217 |
| MAP Mathematics Score | **> or = 232** | 228-231 | 223-227 | < or = 222 |
| Teacher input % | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Writing Sample % Score | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |

- The **bold** score represents the desired benchmark score, and the lowest score in the column with 1 quality point represents the lowest possible score that was considered for eligibility.
- The student is not eligible for consideration if both CogAT % and SAS yield 0 quality points.
- The student must receive at least 1 quality point in one of the ELA categories and in the math category.
- **A total of 14 points is required.**

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# Grade 4 Accelerated Mathematics

- **In grade 4, the district has an Accelerated Mathematics class at each school.**
- **The curriculum used for Accelerated Mathematics class instruction is identical to the mathematics curriculum used in the AI classroom.**
- **Decisions regarding Accelerated Mathematics placement are made automatically (universal screening) after the spring administration of MAP for Mathematics with input at the school level and under the review of the Supervisor of Mathematics. *No registration is required for Accelerated Mathematics placement consideration.***

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# Grade 4 Accelerated Mathematics

- **Students who are <u>currently</u> in the grade 4 Accelerated Mathematics class and who are in good academic standing are automatically eligible for grade 5 E Program Mathematics course placement. *<u>These students</u> do not need to be registered for grade 5 E Mathematics Program placement consideration.* If desired, however, these students should register online for AI or E ELA.**

- **All students in the grade 4 Accelerated Mathematics class <u>may</u> be administered MAP for Mathematics in the spring as a component of district data that teachers can use to inform instruction. If during this testing a concern is raised about movement to E, the school will contact the parent/guardian.**

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# BRRSD
# Enrichment “E” Program

## A Subject-Specific Gifted and Talented Program
## Grades 5-8

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# What is the “E” Program?

- Ability grouping in Mathematics (grades 5 and 6), English Language Arts (grades 5-8), Science (grades 6-8), and Social Studies (grades 6-8)
- Multiple criteria used in selection
- Content specific
- Continued participation in subsequent grades is dependent upon academic performance in the class
  - A grade of B- or higher must be maintained

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# What are the Grade 5 E Placement Criteria for ELA and Math?

- **Multiple Assessments:**
  - **Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) content area assessment specific to reading/language usage and/or mathematics**
  - **District Writing Sample (for ELA and Social Studies)**
  - **Teacher Input regarding the frequency of observable classroom characteristics such as independence, advanced articulation, and concept application**
  - **Marking Period Grades**
  - **Math Unit Test Average**

# 5th Grade E English Language Arts Criteria for 2020-2021

| Grade 5 | Quality Points | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **3** | **2** | **1** | **0** |
| MAP Reading Score | **> or = 230** | 225-229 | 220-224 | < or = 219 |
| MAP Language Usage Score | **> or = 227** | 223-226 | 218-222 | < or = 217 |
| Teacher input % | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Writing Sample % Score | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Marking Period Grade Average | **A** | | A- | < or = B+ |

- The **bold** score represents the desired benchmark score, and the lowest score in the column with 1 quality point represents the lowest possible score that was considered for eligibility.
- A student must receive at least one quality point in either reading or language usage to be eligible.
- **Students need at least 10 quality points to qualify.**
- An A+ is not an available grade in 4th grade, therefore an A will earn 3 quality pts.

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# 5th Grade E Mathematics Criteria for 2020-2021

| Grade 5 | Quality Points | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **3** | **2** | **1** | **0** |
| MAP Mathematics Score | **> or = 232** | 228-231 | 223-227 | < or = 222 |
| Unit Test Average Score | **95-100** | 90-94 | 85-89 | < or = 84 |
| Teacher input % | **80-100** | 60-79 | 50-59 | < or = 49 |
| Marking Period Grade Average | **A** | | A- | < or = B+ |

- The **bold** score represents the desired benchmark score, and the lowest score in the column with 1 quality point represents the lowest possible score that was considered for eligibility.
- **Students need at least 8 quality points to qualify and could not have a 0 in the MAP Mathematics score.**
- An A+ is not an available grade in 4th grade, therefore an A will earn 3 quality pts.

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# Where are the E classrooms located?

- **E classrooms for grades 5 and 6 are located at each of the two Intermediate Schools -- Eisenhower and Hillside.**
- **E classrooms for grades 7 and 8 are at the Middle School**

# Review of Process Timeline:

- **Required Online Registration for AI/E placement consideration grades 2-5**
  - **October 17 through November 11, 2019**
    - **Print the "Your Registration has been Submitted" page. The system does not automatically send an e-mail confirmation.**
  - **Late registration will not be considered.**
- **Administration of the CogAT will be on Saturday, December 7, 2019. (AI applicants only!)**
- **Administration of MAP assessments will occur during the month of January 2020 during the regular school day.**
- **The District Writing Sample is part of the ELA curriculum for all students and is administered between January and February.**

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# How are students and parents notified?

- **AI and E placement decisions are mailed to parents/guardians as soon as scores are available and the data are analyzed.**
- **Anticipate end of March.**

# Office of Special Programs

- **David Michael Matonis, Supervisor**
  - dmatonis@brrsd.k12.nj.us

- **Wendy Minolfo, Secretary**
  - wminolfo@brrsd.k12.nj.us
  - **908.685.2777 ext. 3252**

- **Questions regarding ELA and Math curriculum**
  - **K-4 Supervisor of Mathematics: *Juliette Campasano***
  - **5-8 Supervisor of Mathematics*: Michael Poe***
  - **K-4 Supervisor of ELA: *Candy Mulligan***
  - **5-8 Supervisor of ELA: *Suzanne Wooby***

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