

## **What is Primary Talent Pool?**

Primary Talent pool is a group of students who possess demonstrated or potential ability to perform at exceptionally high levels in the primary years (kindergarten through third grade). These students may be referred to as ***high potential learners***.

The purpose of selecting a Primary Talent Pool is to provide early enrichment for those students whose talents must be nurtured in order for those talents to fully develop.

### **What is a high potential learner?**

Students who learn and comprehend at a faster pace and more complex level than their age peers are considered high potential learners. They often acquire skills earlier and progress at an accelerated rate.

### **How are students selected for Primary Talent Pool?**

A minimum of three informal assessment measures are used to provide evidence that students should participate in Primary Talent Pool. Evidence can be gathered from classroom observations of student behaviors, work samples, informal assessment measures, or formal assessment data.

### **What are informal assessment measures?**

Informal assessment measures rely on observation and professional judgment rather than being standardized or norm referenced with numbers and scores. Examples of informal measures used to determine high potential in primary students include: primary portfolios, behavioral checklists, teacher assessments, work samples, products, and performances.

### **Can any formal testing be done with Primary Talent Pool students?**

Formal, normed measures may be used for diagnosing the level of instructional service needed by a student and for evaluation of student progress. Data from formal, normed measures **shall not** be used for the purpose of eliminating eligibility for services to a child in the primary program, but may be used to discover and include students.

### **How many students are in Primary Talent Pool?**

According to 704 KAR 3:285, "high potential learners" are students who typically represent the top quartile (25%) of the entire student population in terms of the degree of demonstrated gifted characteristics and behaviors.

### **How are students served in Primary Talent Pool?**

PTP students should be nominated in specific areas where they show strength. Once a student is selected for PTP, he/she should be served in the area of specific strength. Students in Primary Talent Pool should receive differentiated services that are matched to their needs, interests, and abilities. Typically students receive services from a gifted education teacher on a rotating, regularly scheduled basis.

**Will Primary Talent Pool students automatically qualify as gifted students once they exit (at the end of third grade) primary and move into fourth grade?**

No, all gifted/talented students from fourth grade on must be formally identified in one or more areas of giftedness. Our school district uses IOWA Assessments, Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), Williams Creativity Test, Renzulli Leadership Assessment, and other formal standardized testing in the areas of general intellectual ability, specific academic aptitude, leadership, creativity, and other measures. Portfolios and performances are used in the area of visual and performing arts.