



My Child is Gifted Now What?



Gifted Education at
Canal Winchester Local Schools

What is “gifted?”

What *“Perfect”* *“Talented”*
“High Achiever” does *“Possessing a special talent”*
gifted *“Highly intelligent”*
“Prodigy” actually *“Having exceptional intelligence”*
“Capable” *“Clever”* mean?
“Adept” *“An example to others”* *“Skilled”*
“Endowed with natural ability”

- Children whose aptitude is deemed significantly above their age level
- Manifests in many domains--intellectual, creative, artistic, leadership, or in specific academic content areas
- Students who think differently about the world around them in speed, worldliness, perhaps more creatively or abstractly. Others are more literal.
- Students who question and/or look for challenges; need more out of work, skill, explanation, etc.
- Many are precocious, march to the beat of their own drum, or are intrinsically motivated to make sense of things in the world.

How did my child land here and what happens now?

Your child is most likely here from one of two ways:

1. A superior cognitive score of a 128+ on the InView whole grade screening.
2. A MAP score of 95th percentile or higher on one of the MAP administrations from 2nd grade on OR a score of 95th percentile or higher on one of the iReady administrations from 2nd grade on (Math only). Students begin service the *year following* after initial identification.

***We do also ID Creative Identification and Visual & Performing Arts Identification**

The Canal Winchester Local Schools policy on gifted education places students meeting the above criteria in a gifted cluster group in grades 3, 4 and 5 with Mrs. Hewitt and Mrs. Logsdon and/or Mrs. Boise. They will then progress to a Seminar setting in grades 6-8, and once in high school can participate in Honors, AP courses, and/or College Credit Plus courses, etc.



Rigors and Expectations of the Program

- ❖ Critical Thinking
- ❖ Creativity
- ❖ Collaboration
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Problem Solving
- ❖ Metacognition
- ❖ Growth Mindset
- ❖ Building a community of students who see themselves as readers, writers, and mathematicians.
- ❖ Challenged/Given a chance to “thrive”
- ❖ Participate and be actively engaged
- ❖ Learning Math for Understanding

What is a WEP/WAP?

*A Written Education Plan (**WEP**) is a document that outlines the goals of service for students who are gifted. It may include both academic and affective goals.

*Developed through collaboration with the teacher, and/or a gifted intervention specialist

*Provide teachers and parents with a snapshot of the child's service(s), goals, measures of progress, responsible staff, and dates for revision; reevaluated on an annual basis.

*Years prior, parents were sent a digital copy as a way of passive consent. Currently, we are looking to have this document connected and uploaded into PowerSchool. You will be notified in the 23-24 year how this information will be communicated.

*A Written Acceleration Plan (**WAP**) is a document your child may or may not be placed on at some point during their educational career.

*In CW historically this has occurred as a child progresses through math at the MS and HS.

*This document follows a student when they increase one "acceleration" beyond their projected course of study path.

*A WAP is only written in the **FIRST** year of a child's acceleration.





How can I support them at home?



- ***Compliment**--your child for his or her abilities and efforts, not their intelligence. Recognize real accomplishments.
- ***Demonstrate**--Assist your child in learning how to pick and choose activities. Demonstrate and stress the importance of downtime and balance. Work with your child on coping with failure and its importance in taking academic risks to challenge themselves
- ***Share relevant data**--If a child takes an assessment, he should be told the results and what they mean. It is really important that your children understand who they are. This includes their abilities and needs as gifted kids.
- ***Enjoy**--As challenging as it is to have a child that is different from the norm, some of the hallmarks of giftedness are a sense of humor, an excellent vocabulary, and high levels of perceptivity. No matter what your child's level of giftedness do your best to end most days looking at the positives and saying to yourself, "Wow! Am I ever lucky!"
- ***The Magic of Mistakes**--help them to feel it is appropriate to take risks or not always know the answers. Sometimes our greatest successes come when failure is felt first.
- ***Productive Struggle**--let them grapple with perplexing problems or challenging ideas.

What resources are available to me?

There are many parent resources and advocacy groups out there as well as supplemental activities, especially within the Columbus area. These are often highlighted on our school website.

Others with emphasis on parents include:

ODE <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Gifted-Education/Resources-for-Parents>

Hoagies Gifted <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/parents.htm>

UCONN http://gifted.uconn.edu/parent_resources/

Byrdseed: Gifted Education

<https://www.byrdseed.com/>

What resources are available to me?

There's also a wealth of online community available for gifted parents. Blogging has become a large outlet in this capacity. This site provides a long list of blogs you could follow for dialogue and information:

<https://giftedchallenges.blogspot.com/2013/08/top-blogs-about-gifted-children-gifted.html>

SENG - <https://www.sengifted.org/>



Local Opportunities for Gifted Students and Parents:

Encourage your child to get involved with academic extracurriculars in our school system! These are more MS/HS oriented, but could potentially include:

*Battle of the Books

*Ohio Model United Nations

*Science Olympiad

*HOSA

*There may be others that develop over the course of your child's academic time with us.



Local Opportunities for Gifted Students and Parents:

Thurber House--focus on writing

Columbus Metropolitan Museum of Art/Square Canvas/House of Therapy--creative/visual/artistic

Engineering for Kids--classes emphasizing in STEM oriented activities

Kids in College Ohio University - Lancaster

** Just to name a few.

**Others will be passed along as they become available.

Our office sends home a list of summer opportunities each spring.**



Math and Reading Resources

Math

- Math Pickle <http://mathpickle.com/>
- Virtual Math Club <https://virtualmathclub.wordpress.com/>
- Virtual Nerd <http://virtualnerd.com/middle-math/all/>
- Khan Academy <http://www.khanacademy.org>
- Prodigy Math Game <https://www.prodigygame.com/>

Reading

- Good Reads www.goodreads.com app (Young Readers Books)
- Scholastic www.scholastic.com
- Watch Connect Read <http://mrschureads.blogspot.com/>
- Some of My Best Friends Are Books by Judith Wynn Halsted

Growth Mindset

- Mindset: The New Psychology of Success by Carol Dweck

Social Emotional Traits and Gifted Children

Many gifted students strive to live up to self-expectations and the expectations of others to be the best. This pressure can often cause stress and anxiety in students. Burnout can occur if students are unable to manage these big emotions.

What stress and anxiety can look like:

- Perfectionism
- Losing sleep at night
- Seeming overwhelmed
- Disorganization
- Anger outbursts
- Constant fidgeting
- Complaining about feeling sick

Ways you can help if your student is experiencing stress and/or anxiety:

- Talk with your student and validate how they are feeling
- Introduce/practice coping skills to help calm their bodies and minds
- Seek out counseling services if you are in need of extra support