



AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parent Information

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR IDENTIFIED ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS

2023-24

AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

550 Milan Ave.

Amherst, OH 44001

WWW.AMHERSTK12.ORG

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER (ESC) OF LORAIN COUNTY

Programs and Services for Gifted Students

WWW.ESCLC.ORG





GIFTED IDENTIFICATION

The identification process is in compliance with the Ohio Department of Education guidelines, and uses only nationally-normed tests on the state approved list. Subjective criteria are not used.

Referral

Students can be referred for assessment by parents, teachers, or students twice a year. Referral forms are available in the office of each school building or at www.esclc.org.

Screening

The NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments are used in grades 2 through grade 8 for reading and math. Students are screened in grades 2 and 5 for cognition using the CogAT Test of Cognitive Abilities. Screening for Creative Thinking Ability also takes place in grades 2 and 5 using the Scales for Rating the Behavior Characteristics of Superior Students (SRBCSS).

Assessment


Following screening, small group and individual assessments are provided for potentially gifted students using the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test-3, Woodcock-Johnson IV, Stanford, and the WISC-V.

Gifted Identification Notice

The Amherst Exempted Village Schools gifted identification plan identifies students in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and visual arts ability. The identification process consists of three phases: pre-assessment, assessment for screening, and assessment for identification. Parents are notified within 30 days of when the results are received from the testing company.

Assurances

The district meets the ODE requirements for evaluation of students who are culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, students with physical and



sensory disabilities, and students who have limited English proficiency. The district identifies using only state-approved tests which are administered by trained personnel.

Written Education Plans

All students identified and served in a gifted program will have a Written Education Plan which is in compliance with the Ohio Operating Standards. Parents are provided with a copy of the plan in the fall of each school year. The goals stated on the plan are developed by the teacher or teachers responsible for providing service. Progress towards the goals is monitored through parent conferences and quarterly progress reports.

Written Acceleration Plans

All students who are subject or whole-grade accelerated will receive a Written Acceleration Plan.

Outside Testing

The district will accept outside testing for gifted students if the test is on the state-approved list, and was conducted in the previous twenty four months.

Transfer Students


The district will review testing from previous schools to determine whether students qualify for services in Amherst. Scores need to be from the previous twenty four months.

Acceleration

The district has a state approved plan in place. The specific referral, screening and assessment process is detailed on the Amherst Exempted Village Schools or ESC websites.

Appeal

Amherst Exempted Village has an appeals process for decisions regarding screening and identification (Ohio Revised Code Section 3324.03). The initial step in the process is to submit a written statement to the building principal



explaining your reason for the appeal of identification within 14 calendar days of receiving identification results.

Waiver

The district has a waiver of assignments procedure in place.

Withdrawal

Withdrawals require parent permission. The written withdrawal request may be submitted to the building principal or the gifted supervisor.

PROGRAM SERVICES

POWERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & WALTER G. NORD SCHOOL

Grade K - 5 Clustered Classes

Students identified as gifted in Superior Cognitive and/or Specific Academic Ability (95th percentile or above in the subject areas of Reading and/or Math) are grouped together in selected classrooms. Services are provided by classroom teachers who have received professional development in the specific competencies for gifted education.

AMHERST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 6 Honors Language Arts


The curriculum is grade-enriched and content extends beyond the grade level standards. The content is enriched in breadth, depth and complexity. Students must meet selection criteria based off of the AJH advanced placement rubric.

Grades 6 Math 6+

The curriculum is grade-enriched and content extends beyond the grade level standards. The content is enriched in breadth, depth and complexity. Students must meet selection criteria based off of the AJH advanced placement rubric.

Grades 7-8 Language Arts (Honors & Advanced Courses)

The curriculum is accelerated, and the content goes beyond the grade level



standards. Classroom teachers differentiate the curriculum to meet higher ability levels through enrichment and compacting. Students must meet the selection criteria based off of the AJH advanced placement rubric.

Grade 7-8 Math (Grade 7 Algebra 1, Grade 8 Geometry)

Students must meet selection criteria based off of the AJH advanced placement rubric. Math classes fulfill the requirements for high school credit and overall high school GPA.

MARION L. STEELE HIGH SCHOOL

High School Services

Services include Honors classes, AP, and College Credit Plus courses. Students with gifted identifications in specific content areas are provided with WEPs and service is reported to the state.

AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Mr. Mike Molnar, Superintendent
Mrs. Sarah Walker, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Mackenzie Hall, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

LORAIN COUNTY ESC

Alice Ogonek, ESC Gifted Supervisor
Email: ogonek@esclc.org
Phone: 440-324-5777 x1145

POWERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Brian Teppner, Principal
Mrs. Mary Scott Williams, Assistant Principal

AMHERST JUNIOR HIGH

Mr. Andrew Gibson, Principal
Mrs. Brittany Chudakoff, Assistant Principal

WALTER J. NORD SCHOOL

Mrs. Ashley Harigan, Principal

MARION L. STEELE HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Joe Tellier, Principal
Ms. Denise Abbott, Assistant Principal
Mr. Nick Toney, Assistant Principal



County 1885 Lake Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035
(440) 324-5777
www.esclc.org

The ESC of Lorain County Gifted Consortium sponsors professional development for gifted educators as well as special events for gifted students that align specific curriculum to state standards.

Professional Development: Gifted educators' workshops, small group in-district sessions upon request, book studies

Countywide Gifted Programs/Services

- Classroom Attorney Workshops
- Mock Trial
- Academic Challenge
- Visual Arts Identification
- 24 Game Semi-Finals/Finals
- Artist Workshops
- Young Authors