

MIFFLINBURG AREA SD
178 Maple St

Gifted Education Plan Assurances (Chapter 16) | 2021 - 2024

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CHAPTER 16

Chapter 16 of the PA Code specifies how Pennsylvania will meet its obligations to suspected and identified gifted students who require gifted education to reach their potential. Gifted students are to be provided with quality gifted education services and programs. Requirements for Gifted Education Plans can be found in the Pennsylvania Code (22 Pa Code §16.32).

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 4.13(e) (relating to strategic plans) and 22 Pa. Code § 16.4, each school district shall develop and implement a gifted education plan every 6 years.

- a. The plan shall include the process for identifying children who are gifted and in need of specially designed instruction, as well as the gifted special education programs offered.
- b. The school districts shall make its gifted education plan available for public inspection and comment for a minimum of 28 days prior to approval of the plan by the school district's board of directors.
- c. Each school district shall provide, as the Department may require, reports of students, personnel and program elements, including the costs of the elements, which are relevant to the delivery of gifted education. (22 Pa. Code § 16.4)

1. Describe your district's public notice procedures conducted annually to inform the public of the gifted education services AND programs offered (newspaper, student handbooks, school website, etc.).
This information is included in our District school website, our District calendar, and our student handbooks. In addition, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit posts a gifted education services announcement for all participating school districts within the Intermediate Unit.
2. Describe your district's process for locating students who are thought to be gifted and may need specially designed instruction.
Parents, as well as classroom teachers in collaboration with parents, may refer students to the MTSS Team to be considered for gifted services. Parent permission is obtained prior to any part of the evaluation process. A universal screening, COGAT, is administered to all students in Grade 2. If a score of 120 or higher is achieved on the COGAT, the student is recommended for further screening. Each building level holds data team meetings at least twice a year to review various benchmark assessments for the purpose of student eligibility for the screening process. Students may be referred for gifted screening based on those findings. The school counselor or the gifted teacher uses the KBIT-2 or RIST-2 (standardized assessment tools) to administer the screening. Students who obtain a standard score of 124 or higher (95th percentile) in any area on a screening measure will be referred for a gifted evaluation. Other measures and data considered may include the KTEA-3 Brief, Acadience Reading, MAP, and teacher input.
3. Describe your district's procedures for determining ELIGIBILITY (through MULTIPLE CRITERIA) and NEED (based on ACADEMIC STRENGTH) for potentially mentally gifted students (EVALUATION).
The school district's procedures for identifying students who are mentally gifted and in need of specially designed instruction include a gifted multidisciplinary evaluation that is completed by a school psychologist. The gifted multidisciplinary evaluation for determining eligibility consists of an individually administered assessment of intellectual functioning, standardized achievement assessment, curriculum-based measures, classroom-based assessments, examination of learning strengths, and parent/teacher input. If the student meets criteria as a mentally gifted student in need of specially designed instruction, a Gifted Individualized Education Plan (GIEP) will be developed. If a student does not qualify, the parents are informed and are offered a multidisciplinary team meeting to review the evaluation. Students may be re-evaluated once per school year. Parents may also seek independent evaluations at any time.
4. Describe the gifted programs* that are offered to provide opportunities for acceleration, enrichment, or both. *The word "programs" refers to the CONTINUUM OF SERVICES, not one particular option.