



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

Board Policy Statement

5111.10 - The House of Arts, Letters and Science (HALs) Enrollment Policy

Approved on 1/8/2024

- I. CSDNB Philosophy Regarding Gifted and Talented - CSDNB addresses the unique needs of our gifted and high achieving students by providing an engaging, rigorous, and individualized education that enables each student to reach his/her maximum potential.
- II. Definition of Gifted and Talented -
 - A. “Extraordinary learning ability” means a child identified by the planning and placement team as gifted and talented on the basis of either performance on relevant standardized measuring instruments, or demonstrated or potential achievement or intellectual creativity, or both.
 - B. Imbalance is determined pursuant to §10-226e-3 and §10-226e-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, comparing school proportions with the district proportions of students in the same grade.
- IV. Enrollment Process
 - A. Incoming classes of 6th graders are evaluated against academic criteria, attendance, behavior, and teacher recommendation to determine their extraordinary learning ability.
 - B. Students are ranked based on that criteria to receive invitations to enroll.
 - C. Beyond the 50 seats, students are placed on a waiting list that includes 10% more students.
 - D. Pursuant §10-226e-3 and §10-226e-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies regarding racial imbalance, no more than 15 points more or less than the district demographic for any one racial group will be enrolled in the school or placed on the waitlist.
 - E. By the end of May, families must respond to the due date for accepting the seat at HALs for 6th grade.
 - F. Families that accept a seat at HALs sign a contract that agrees to academic and behavioral standards to continue enrollment.
 - G. If a student leaves HALS, a new student can be enrolled off the waitlist based on a review of the same criteria used to enroll the cohort.
 - H. New students who enter the district can be considered for the waitlist or an opening based on a review of the same criteria used to enroll the cohort.
- V. Legislation/CSDE Guidance -
 - Connecticut Public Act 17-82
 - R.C.S.A. §10-226e-1(9)
 - R.C.S.A. §10-226e-1(10)
 - CSDE Guidance on Gifted and Talented, <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Gifted-and-Talented/Gifted-and-Talented-Education---Guidance.pdf>



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VI. Regulations

- A. Families who accept placement into HALs in the Spring, will be required to adhere to summer session reading and/or assignments in preparation for the school year.
- B. The principal of the school will maintain the waitlist of students and initiate an evaluation of a student coming off the waitlist to determine placement into open seats or seats that become vacant due to a student leaving the program.
- C. Per CSDE guidelines, the enrollment list will be completed using a group PPT process where the steps described in policy are reviewed and verified year to year. An individual PPT will be used to determine entry into seats that become available for students on the waitlist.
- D. Classes will be enrolled to include the maximum cited in local bargaining contracts.