



Shrewsbury Borough School



Gifted & Talented Program Revisions 2024-2025

Presented by Ms. Cheryl Salway; Assistant
Principal/Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction; and Mr.
William Clark, Gifted & Talented Teacher



What is the definition of Gifted & Talented?



New Jersey's 2020 Strengthening Gifted & Talented Act states...

A "gifted and talented student" means a student who possesses or demonstrates a high level of ability in one or more content areas when compared to his chronological peers in the school district...

At SBS we...

- Differentiate in the classroom based on subject area
- Offer Advanced Mathematics in Grades 6-8 for those students who meet the criteria
- Offer ELA Enrichment

Need for Revisions



Feedback from Gr. 3 Teachers

- Students can't afford to miss instructional time (particularly mathematics for G & T programming)

Data that Supports Gr. 3 Teacher Concerns

- iReady and F & P data show that grade level peers catch up with peers who were identified as being advanced, especially in reading

Students Accepted on Appeals Process

- Process allowed for subjectivity
- Question of equity--Do all parents take the time to make appeals?

Overidentification of Students

- Nationwide: The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights estimates that six (6) percent of public school students are enrolled in a gifted and talented program-from NAGC
 - SBS 2023-2024 School Year-12% (double the national average)



All Placements are based on EOY 2024 numbers (F & P, iReady, NJSLA)

- **EQUITY**: not all students have the same summer experiences with reading and math
- **iReady Testing Window** as approved in District Testing Calendar: We do not publish scores until that is completed. (Some students need make-ups, are flagged...again EQUITY)
- To run an **efficient, timely** and equitable program, scores for EOY are the best to use

ELA Enrichment: *What Is It?*



- Meant for high performance in this academic area
- Identifies students who may not be high performers in math
- Builds on ELA standards that are used in the classroom
- Middle school enrichment uses Journalistic Learning Institute curriculum of which Mr. Clark was a 2023-2024 Educator Fellow
- Our Gifted & Talented Educator, Mr. Clark, is a certified English teacher and a local journalist
- Enhanced this year for Grades 2-4

ELA Enrichment Criteria



Fountas & Pinnell

Fountas & Pinnell	5	4	3	2	1
K and Grade 1	H+	G+	F+	E+	D+
Grade 1 to Grade 2	O+	N+	M+	L+	K+
Grade 2 to Grade 3	T+	S+	R+	Q+	P+
Grade 3 to Grade 4	Y+	X+	W+	V+	U+

Criteria:

Gr. 2 & 3: 9/10 points on combined iReady and F & P

Gr. 4-8: 7/8 points on combined iReady & NJSLA

NJSLA

NJSLA Math	Points Earned	NJSLA ELA	Points Earned
Exceeding	3	Exceeding	3
Meeting	1	Meeting	1
Approaching and Below	0	Approaching and Below	0

iReady

i-Ready Reading/ National Percentage	Points Earned	i-Ready Math/ National Percentage	Points Earned
96-99	5	96-99	5
92-95	4	92-95	4
88-91	3	88-91	3
87-84	2	87-84	2
83-80	1	83-80	1

All of this data is made available to parents on LinkIt! Parent Portal

Considerations for SBS Gifted & Talented Programming



- Multiple measures put emphasis on both high academic performance and creative thinking
- Standards based on National Association for Gifted Children that emphasize interests, abilities, & cooperation
- Differentiating admissions process based on previous admittance takes into consideration previous academic performance over time and adequate scores on CogAT. We are being fair to those who score 100% on rubric because they demonstrate that their giftedness is a continuation of performance without precipitous drops
- Students may work on projects that do not fall in the realm of classroom standards (ISTE standards, NAGC, ALA)

Criteria and Process for K-2 SBS Gifted & Talented Identification



Based on 15 Point Rubric: iReady Math, iReady Reading, and Fountas & Pinnell

- All previously admitted students who earn **15/15** on the rubric will be **readmitted**
- **Previously admitted students** who earn **12-15 points** on the rubric must achieve an **85% or above** on each section of the Torrance Test of Creativity
- Students who were **not previously admitted** who earn **12-15 points** on the rubric must achieve a **90% or above** on each section of the Torrance Test of Creativity

Criteria and Process for 3-8 SBS Gifted & Talented Identification



Based on 16 Point Rubric: iReady Math, iReady Reading, NJSLA Math & NJSLA ELA

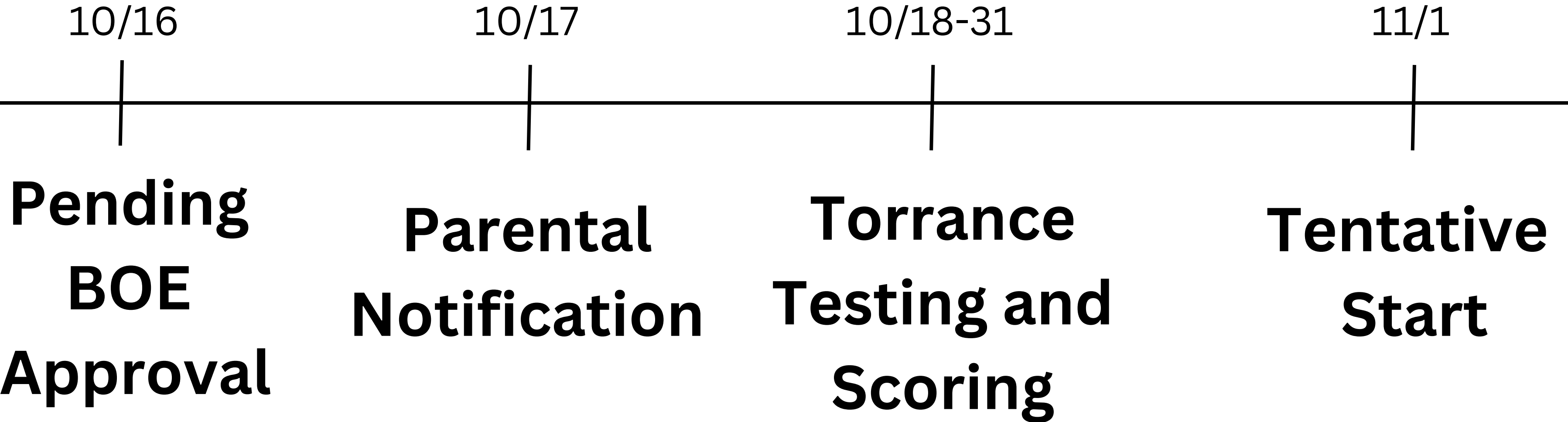
- All previously admitted students who have a **16/16** on the rubric will be **readmitted**
- **Previously admitted students** who earn **13-16 points** on the rubric must achieve an **85% or above** on each section of the Torrance Test of Creativity
- Students who were **not previously admitted** who earn **13-16 points** on the rubric must achieve a **90% or above** on each section of the Torrance Test of Creativity

The Appeals Process



- **G&T appeals will take place at the midpoint of the year. MP2 ends 2.14.25; all appeals must be requested by 2.14.25.**
- **ELA Enrichment can be appealed after MP1 and MP2.**
- **Appeal must be sent in writing (letter or PDF) to Ms. Salway, Assistant Principal/Supervisor of Curriculum; and Mr. Clark, Gifted & Talented Teacher and specific new data that qualifies the child for Enrichment or Gifted and Talented.**
- **Appeal response will be based on calculated rubric with new MOY data weighed against EOY data 75% to 25%**

Enrichment and Gifted & Talented Identification Timeline



Final Thoughts

- **All data used is available on LinkIt! Parent Portal.**
- **Please look to all data there--past and present--before communicating with Mr. Clark and Ms. Salway**
- **Appeals will only take place at the time and method indicated**
- **Parents of students who were once in the program and will not proceed to the next level of Torrance testing will be notified**