

Hudson City School District

Dana Addis, Superintendent

Angela Terella, Assistant Superintendent

76 North Hayden Parkway

Hudson, OH 44236

Board of Education Policy 2464



Hudson City School District

Identification of Gifted
Children

Derek Hatcher, Gifted Coordinator
(330) 653-1329

hatcherd@hudson.k12.oh.us

83 North Oviatt, Hudson, OH 44236

February 2026

DEFINITIONS PER OHIO LAW

"Gifted" means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment and who are identified under division (A), (B), (C), or (D) of Section 3324.03 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). Ohio law identifies gifted students in the following four areas:

Superior Cognitive Ability

A student shall be identified as exhibiting "superior cognitive ability" if the student did either of the following within the preceding twenty- four (24) months:

1. Scored two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved individual standardized intelligence test administered by a licensed psychologist or a licensed or certified school psychologist;
2. Accomplished any one of the following:
 - (a) Scored at least two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved standardized group intelligence test;
 - (b) Performed at or above the 95th percentile on an approved individual or group standardized basic or composite battery of a nationally-normed achievement test; or
 - (c) Attained an approved score on one or more above-grade level standardized, nationally-normed approved tests.

Specific Academic Ability



A student shall be identified as exhibiting "specific academic ability" superior to that of children of similar age in a specific academic ability field if within the preceding twenty-four months the student performed at or above the 95th percentile at the national level on an approved individual or group standardized achievement test of specific academic ability in that field. A student may be identified as gifted in more than one specific academic ability field.

Creative Thinking Ability

A student shall be identified as exhibiting "creative thinking ability" superior to children of similar age, if within the previous twenty-four months, the student scored one standard deviation above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved individual or group intelligence test and also did either of the following:

1. Attained a sufficient score, as established by the Department of Education, on an approved individual or group test of creative ability;
- OR
2. Exhibited sufficient performance, as established by the Department of Education and Workforce, on an approved checklist by a trained individual of creative behaviors.

Visual or Performing Arts Ability

A student shall be identified as exhibiting “visual or performing arts ability” superior to that of children of similar age if the student has done both of the following:

1. Demonstrated to a trained individual through a display of work, an audition, or other performance or exhibition, superior ability in a visual or performing arts area;

AND

2. Exhibited to a trained individual sufficient performance, as established by the Department of Education and Workforce, on an approved checklist of behaviors related to a specific arts area.

Identification Process

Students will be given two opportunities to be identified throughout the school year. In special circumstances, such as a student moving from another state, arrangements may be made to have the child tested by contacting the district’s gifted coordinator. Any student residing in the district may be referred by a teacher, administrator, gifted intervention specialist, guidance counselor, school psychologist, student, or a parent or legal guardian for identification. Copies of the referral form are available on the district’s website. The deadline to register for gifted testing is November 1st. Students referred after this date will be assessed in February for consideration for the following school year. Evaluation instruments will be selected to offer equal access to all of our district’s populations and to ensure that students’ testing needs are met. Tests in the student’s native language will be provided when feasible. Parents will be notified of their child’s results within 30 days of the district receiving those results. The Hudson City Schools will identify in the following way:

Screening

All students in grades 2, 4, and 6 are screened using a nationally-normed abilities test given during the regular school day by their classroom teachers. (Presently, the Hudson City Schools is using the *CogAT* and the *InView* cognitive abilities tests.)

Students achieving a composite score of 124 or higher (or 123 or higher in grades K-1) on the *CogAT* or *InView* will be further assessed for “superior cognitive” ability.

Students scoring in the 94th percentile or higher in reading, and/or math using the *i-Ready* or *Iowa* tests will be further assessed for “specific academic” ability.

Students achieving the ODEW-specified cognitive score or higher on the *CogAT* or *InView* will be further assessed for “creative thinking” ability.



Assessment

Students in the “superior cognitive” or “specific academic” categories who meet the identification criteria will be coded in the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) Educational Information Management System (EMIS) as such. Students meeting the screening criteria, but not the identification criteria, will be further assessed using a second battery of tests. Parental permission will be required for this testing. The second test will be chosen from the ODE list of approved gifted identification/screening instruments.

Students will only be re-tested in areas in which their scores meet the screening criteria.

For students who meet the “creative thinking” criteria, teachers will complete a checklist of creative thinking characteristics, also from the approved ODEW list, for identification in this area.

For identification in the areas of visual and performing arts, the Hudson City Schools currently works in conjunction with other Stark/Summit County schools to participate in an Assessment Day where students audition, perform or display art work, and are assessed by professionals in these areas.

Appeals Procedure

Parents wishing to appeal the results of testing or placement decisions must submit their concerns, in writing, to the gifted coordinator. A meeting with the parent(s) and appropriate school personnel will be set. The Assistant Superintendent’s office will issue a written final decision within thirty (30) days.

Transfer Students

Students moving into the Hudson City School District must meet the state criteria as defined in the Ohio Revised Code, Section 3324 to be identified as gifted and also meet the district’s criteria for services.

If students have been assessed in another Ohio district using approved state testing instruments, those scores will be viewed as valid whether the child was identified as gifted or not. If a child has not been tested, a parent may request such testing and the district will provide testing within **90 days** of enrollment. Students will be included in the regular testing programs as outlined in “Identification Process” of this brochure if the testing falls within the 90-day window.

Programs and Services

Ohio Law requires school districts to screen, assess, and identify gifted students. Gifted services, however, are not mandated by the state and must be established within each individual district. In the Hudson City Schools, students receive direct services in grades 3-8 in the content area of reading/language arts when a Cognitive Skills Index (Superior Cognitive Score) of 137 or higher is achieved, or a CSI of 132 to 136 **and** identification in reading (95th percentile or greater) is achieved.

For more information about Hudson’s tiered service model, please visit our website.