

## ***Reading the NGAT Report for Parents***

In the state of Arizona, students are identified for gifted programming when they score at the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile (or higher) on a state-approved, gifted assessment (Ariz. Admin. Code § 7-2-406). The state of Arizona recognizes three areas of cognitive ability for placement into a gifted program (verbal, quantitative, nonverbal). Deer Valley Unified School District utilizes multiple cognitive abilities assessments to support student identification and placement. Your child recently completed the NGAT.

The **Naglieri General Ability Test (NGAT)** measures the level and pattern of cognitive development of a student compared to children of the same age. The NGAT assesses students' thinking ability, not knowledge of previously learned skills.

### **Three Measures of Ability**

- **Verbal** – The Verbal section uses universally recognized pictures that are appropriate across cultures, representing verbal concepts, rather than presenting questions orally or in writing.
- **Quantitative** - The quantitative section is composed of questions that are presented using numbers and shapes arranged in a pattern. The test items require students to examine the relationship, patterns, and sequences among numbers and/or symbols using basic math concepts.
- **Nonverbal** - The non-verbal section requires students to decipher the logic behind the relationships among shapes, their color, sequences, orientation, etc. to determine which option completes the pattern.

### **Age Norms**

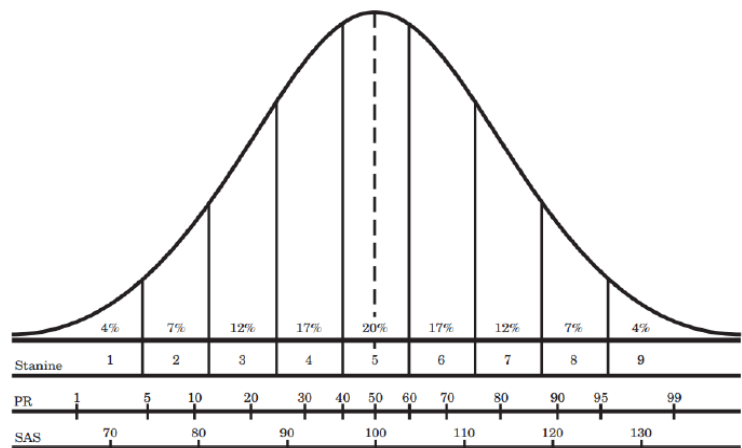
The NGAT uses age norms (national) to calculate scores and compare students of the same age.

### **The Percentile Rank**

A percentile rank is not a percent correct. The percentile reflects a comparison. It indicates the percentage of students in the same age group whose scores fall below the score obtained by a particular student. For example, if your student scored at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile on the Verbal battery, it means that your child performed better than 90 percent of students who completed the same assessment. **A percentile rank of 50 is considered average.**

**Figure 1-1: Relationship of Stanines, Percentile Ranks, and Standard Age Scores**

Percentile Rank	Description
96 <sup>th</sup> - 99 <sup>th</sup>	Very High
77 <sup>th</sup> – 95 <sup>th</sup>	Above Average
24 <sup>th</sup> – 76 <sup>th</sup>	Average
5 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Below Average



### **General Information**

Test results from a cognitive abilities test can vary greatly depending on a variety of external factors (overthinking, perfectionism, overconfidence, motivation, stress, distractibility, exhaustion, etc.). Test results represent *one* moment in time and cannot fully measure a child's innate abilities and skills.