

Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools

Administration

Michael Cook, Superintendent
440-949-4202

Brenda Svec Curriculum Director
440-949-4291

Brookside High School

Grades 9-12 | 440-949-4220
Emily Adkins Principal
Brian George, Assistant Principal

Brookside Middle School

Grades 7-8 | 440-949-4228
Heather Pelphrey, Principal

Brookside Intermediate School

Grades 3-6 | 440-949-4233
Wes Davies, Principal
Sierra Swanson, Assistant Principal

Knollwood Elementary

Grades 1-2 | 440-949-4234
Colleen Mudore, Principal

Forestlawn Elementary

Pre-K and Kindergarten | 440-949-4238
Michelle Szczepanski, Principal



Gifted Intervention Specialist

Bridgette Musso, Grade 4 ELA and Math
bmusso@sheffieldschools.org
Melissa Fedak, Grade 4 ELA and Math
mfedak@sheffieldschools.org

The ESC of Lorain County Gifted Consortium sponsors professional development for gifted educators as well as special events for gifted students that align specific curriculum to state standards:

Professional Development

Book Studies
Gifted Tool Box
Professional Gifted Speakers
Three GIS workshops at the ESC
Small group in-district sessions upon request

Countywide Gifted Programs/Services

Mock Trial
ACT Practice Test
24 Game Tournament
Visual Arts Identification Day



ESC of Lorain County
1885 Lake Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035
440-324-5777

www.esclc.org

ESC Gifted Supervisor

Alice Ogonek
ogonek@esclc.org
440-324-5777 x1135

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Butcho
butcho@esclc.org

Parent Information Educational Programming for Identified Academically Talented Students



Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools 2025-2026

1824 Harris Road
Sheffield, OH 44054

www.sheffieldschools.org

or

ESC of Lorain County
Programs and Services for gifted students:

www.esclc.org

Identification

The identification process is in compliance with the Ohio Department of Education guidelines, and uses only nationally-normed tests from the state approved list. Subjective criteria are not used.

Referral: Students may be referred for assessment by parents, teachers, or students twice each year. Referral forms are available in the office of each school building or at www.esclc.org.

Screening: Three times during the school year, students are screened using NWEA MAP to assess students in grades K-10 in the areas of Math and Reading. The InView assessment is used for Cognitive and Creative Thinking identification for students in grades 2 and 4.

Assessment: Following screening, small group and individual assessments are administered to potentially gifted students using tests, as outlined in the PB-3.

Assurances: The district meets the ODE requirements for evaluation of students who are culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, students with physical and sensory disabilities and students who have limited English proficiency. The district identifies using only state approved tests which are administered by trained personnel.

Written Education Plans: Education plans are written, and reviewed on a yearly basis for all students who are identified and served.

Outside Testing: The district will accept outside testing for gifted if the test is on the ODE-approved list, and has been administered within the past 24 months.

Transfer Students: The district will review testing from previous schools to determine whether students qualify for services in Sheffield-Sheffield Lake.

Acceleration: The District has a state approved plan in place. The specific referral, screening and assessment process is detailed on the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools and the ESCLC websites.

Appeal: The district has an appeals process for decisions regarding screening and identification. The initial step in the process is to submit a written statement to the building principal, explaining your reasons for the appeal of identification.

Waiver: The district has a waiver of assignments procedure in place.

Withdrawal: The district has procedures for withdrawal of children from gifted services, in accordance with ODE guidelines. Parents should contact their Gifted Supervisor or Gifted Intervention Specialist for an initial conference. If a student is not achieving or struggling with the expectations of the service, a parent-teacher conference will determine if this is the most appropriate placement.

Program Services

Gifted services offered by the District are in accordance with the Ohio Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted students (July 2018). The District ensures equal opportunity for all district students identified as gifted to receive any gifted services offered by the district for which they are eligible.

Knollwood Elementary Grade 2

Students are clustered, based upon State-approved Superior Cognitive identification and/or 95th percentile in specific academic area(s). Students that meet state-approved gifted identification receive differentiated instruction within the classroom setting, according to area(s) of identification indicated on their Written Education Plans (WEPs).

Brookside Intermediate Grades 3-6

Students are clustered or placed in accelerated ELA/Math classes, based upon objective school criteria. Students may participate in gifted countywide programs, competitions, and special projects. The Gifted Intervention Specialist (GIS) and general education teachers work collaboratively to provide rigor and differentiation of instruction for identified students.

Brookside Middle Grades 7-8

Services are provided in a cluster grouping co-teaching model. Instruction is guided by the Written Education Plans. Service time is in compliance with state guidelines.

Brookside High School Grades 9-12

Services are in the form of single subject Honors, Advanced Placement, and/or College Credit Plus courses with a focus on content standards.



Gifted Identification Notice

The Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools' gifted identification plan identifies students in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and visual and/or performing arts ability. The identification process consists of three phases: pre-assessment, assessment for screening, and assessment for identification. Specific criteria for identification are in compliance with ODE guidelines. Teachers or parents may refer children for testing by completing and submitting a referral form available at each building or at www.esclc.org.

NWEA MAP Growth - Grades 2-10

95% and above

Specific Academic Ability (Math and Reading only)

Service Notification

The Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools has a multi-faceted program designed to meet the needs of the diverse population in the school district. Sheffield-Sheffield Lake offers equal access to services for identified students.

Students are provided rigor and differentiation in instruction to meet their abilities. Other opportunities may include county-wide programs, competitions and special projects. Student service is guided by a WEP with specific goals for each student.

Student learning is guided by Written Education Plans which are shared with parents by mail or through parent conferences.

Written Education Plans

All students identified and served in a gifted program must be on a WEP in compliance with the Ohio Operating Standards. Service is reported to the Ohio Department of Education Office for Exceptional Children.

Note: Teachers receive Professional Development and guidance from the Gifted Supervisor to meet the needs of gifted students. Differentiated instruction is individualized on a Written Education Plan with specific goals.