



Gifted Referral Process – Middle School

What does “Gifted” mean?

- The state of Ohio defines a gifted student as one who “performs or shows potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment.”
- (Source: Ohio Department of Education Website, 2019)



Referral and Placement Deadlines

Accelerated Math – Grades 6 & 7

- Referral forms for testing are due to the Gifted Services Dept. by November 15th. Students will not be placed into the gifted Accelerated math program after January 5th of the current school year. Any Referrals received by April 15th will be given priority for testing by the completion of the current school year. All referrals received after April 15th will begin testing in early late summer.

Language Arts Cluster and Enriched Language Arts – Grades 6-8

- Referral forms for testing are due by November 15th for the current school year so placements can be made by January 5th. However, referral forms are due March 1st for the following school year so testing can be completed by May 1st. This will ensure that the majority of students do not have scheduling conflicts due to fall schedule changes.



What qualifies a student as Gifted in Language Arts for Middle School?

For Language Arts Cluster

- Grades 6-8
- Service provided within the regular classroom by a general education teacher receiving on-going professional development on meeting the needs of the gifted learner for students identified as gifted in the area of reading
- A score of 95th %ile or higher on an ODE approved Reading assesment
 - Map 2-5, Iowa, Stanford, TerraNova
- Ohio State Testing (OST) can not be used for identification

For Enriched Language Arts

- Grades 6-8
- A self-contained, single subject (reading) course for students identified as gifted in areas of superior cognitive ability and reading
- A score of 95th %ile or higher on an ODE approved Reading assessment
 - MAP 2-5, Iowa, Stanford, TerraNova
- An identification score required on Superior Cognitive Ability Assessment (Varies by test)
 - CogAT, InView, Naglieri
- Ohio State Testing (OST) can not be used for identification

What qualifies a student as Gifted in Math for Middle School?

Accelerated Math – Grades 6 & 7

- Gifted services in MATHEMATICS are provided through Accelerated Math 6 and Accelerated Math 7, two courses that condense 3 years of math (Math 6, Math 7, and Math 8) into 2 years.
- A student identified as gifted in math and/or SCA will be automatically enrolled in Accelerated Math 6 in the 6th grade and Accelerated Math 7 in the 7th grade unless the parent/guardian officially withdraws the student from the gifted services.
- Ohio State Testing (OST) can not be used for identification

The Referral Process: The First Step

- Who can refer a student?
 - Parent
 - Teacher
 - Gifted Intervention Specialist
 - Principal
 - Counselor
 - Psychologist
 - Student (Self-Referral)



The Referral Process – Completing the form

- Parents must give consent for screening and sign the referral form.
- Once form is completed, please submit to Gifted Services at the WEC.
- Ohio Department of Education mandates that only 2 referrals are permitted per school year. District wide testing (CogAT, MAP) counts as one testing opportunity for the year.

The Referral Process: Screening

- Once the referral form is received by Gifted Services, it will be forwarded on to the appropriate assessor.
- The assessors will then reach out to the building secretaries and classroom teachers to set up testing dates/times.
- Once testing dates are determined, the assessors will contact parents to confirm.
- Screening typically takes 1-3 sessions, depending on the number of tests needing to be completed.
- Tests are scored and returned to Gifted Services within 7 business days after completion of screening.

The Referral Process: After Screening

- Gifted Services will process all screening scores and enter them into Infinite Campus.
- A letter is emailed to parents outlining the screening results (typically within 14 business days) of receiving the screening scores.
- A copy of the letter sent to parents will also be emailed to the building Principal, Gifted teacher and homeroom teacher.
- Gifted Services will scan all paperwork and add appropriate flags into Infinite Campus.
- Buildings will update the student schedule as necessary in Infinite Campus.

Worthington Gifted Resources

- Worthington City Schools Gifted Website: [WCS Gifted](#)
- Middle School Gifted Referral Form: [Referral Form](#)
- Worthington Schools Gifted Identification Plan: [Gifted ID Plan](#)
- Ohio Department of Education Gifted Page: [ODE Website](#)
- Gifted Contact Information:
 - Suzanne Palmer – Gifted Services Coordinator - 614.450.6055 - spalmer@wscloud.org
 - Shannon Thomas – Gifted Services Administrative Assistant - 614.450.6056 – stthomas1@wscloud.org