



# 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 15<sup>th</sup>. Students will not be placed into the gifted Accelerated math program after January 5<sup>th</sup> of the current school year. Any Referrals received by April 15<sup>th</sup> will be given priority for testing by the completion of the current school year. All referrals received after April 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> for the current school year so placements can be made by January 5<sup>th</sup>. However, referral forms are due March 1<sup>st</sup> for the following school year so testing can be completed by May 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 95<sup>th</sup> %ile or higher on an ODE approved Reading assesement
  - 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 95<sup>th</sup> %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 mailed 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 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](mailto:spalmer@wscloud.org)
  - Kyle Sarver– Gifted Services Administrative Assistant - 614.450.6056 - [ksarver@wscloud.org](mailto:ksarver@wscloud.org)