The Board of Education recognizes it is the district’s responsibility to identify gifted and talented pupils in the district and to provide these pupils with appropriate instructional adaptations and services.

Gifted and talented pupils are those individuals who possess high levels of academic ability in one or more content areas when compared to their chronological peers in the district and who require appropriate instructional adaptations to their regular educational program in order to achieve in accordance with their capabilities.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will develop criteria and identification procedures that are developmentally appropriate and that employ multiple measures to assess pupils’ level of achievement. These procedures will include achievement test scores, grades, pupil performance or products, aptitude assessment, teacher recommendation and other appropriate measures. These procedures, as well as pupil eligibility for programs and services, will be reviewed annually. Since special abilities and skills appear at different times in the development of children, it is essential that the identification of these pupils be carried out on a continuous basis in grades K-12.

The district shall provide gifted and/or talented pupils at all grade levels with programs which provide for their basic education while encouraging optimum development of their special abilities and which stimulate pupils to participate constructively in and contribute to the activities of their school, community and society. The Superintendent or his/her designee will develop appropriate curricular and instructional program modifications for gifted and talented pupils. These will include programs and services that address content, process, products and learning environments that meet the needs of gifted pupils in grades K-12.

The educational program and services offered to gifted and talented pupils will challenge them in the specific areas of their abilities. Such programs shall be designed in terms of the individual learning styles of each pupil as well as the capacity of a gifted pupil to create concepts, respond to stimuli in a unique and creative manner, develop higher levels of thinking and influence the behavior of others. The program and services offered to a gifted and talented pupil may be infused into the student’s regular instructional program, may be a specialized program within the regular school day, or may be specific courses designed as meeting the needs of gifted and talented pupils.

N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1.3; 6A:8-3.1.5.i-iv

Adopted: 03/18/2009 (Replaces Policy No. 6171.2)