

# IDENTIFICATION & SERVICES FOR GIFTED STUDENTS



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The focus of the Canal Winchester's Gifted and Talented Program is to provide services to students designated as having superior cognitive ability and/or specific academic ability in reading and/or math.



## Our Mission Statement

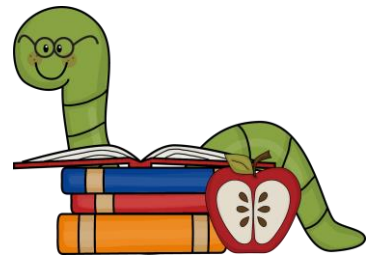
Canal Winchester Local Schools encourages students identified as gifted to develop their own unique intellectual, academic, creative, social and emotional skills in a positive environment that provides support for their specific needs. Gifted services is a continuum of services that creates opportunities for students to experience higher levels of learning such as analyzing & synthesizing information, logical reasoning, problem solving, and decision making. The ultimate goal of the program is to assist our students in becoming healthy, productive & contented individuals who are comfortable with, and knowledgeable about, their special talents and gifts.



The Canal Winchester Local School District's identification and services do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, socioeconomic background, nationality or those for whom English is a second language. Testing options are available for culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

If at any time a parent wishes to withdraw their child from the gifted program or services, a request should be made in writing to the building principal or gifted coordinator.

## GIFTED IDENTIFICATION



### Gifted Defined

Gifted children thrive on challenge and innovation. They have special needs that must be met in order to help them cope with everyday life and to enable them to blossom to their highest potential. But even the experts have a variety of definitions for the term “gifted.” What exactly does the term “gifted” mean? Some would say, “All children are gifted.” It is true that all children are special, and all children have unique abilities and strengths. Giftedness does not mark a child in any tangible or visible way. It is not easy to pick out the gifted students in a classroom. A gifted child may not be the kind of student most people expect. He or she may not be a straight-A student. The gifted child is not always a hard worker and sometimes may not be very easy to be around.

### Identification of Gifted Children

Ohio’s school districts are not required to serve gifted children by law, but they are required to identify students as gifted in grades K-12. The Ohio Revised Code specifies, in general terms, how gifted students are to be identified. Children may be identified as gifted in one or more of the following categories: Superior Cognitive Ability, Specific Academic Ability, Creative Thinking Ability, and/or Visual and Performing Arts Ability.

**Superior Cognitive Ability:** A child shall be identified as exhibiting “superior cognitive ability” if the child did either of the following within the preceding 24 months:

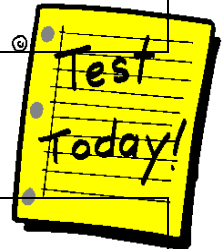
- Scored at least two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved standardized individual or group intelligence test.

- Attained an approved score on one or more above-grade-level standardized, nationally normed approved test.

**Specific Academic Ability:** A child shall be identified as exhibiting “specific academic ability” superior to that of children of similar age in a specific academic ability field, if the child performed at or above the ninety-fifth percentile at national level on an approved individual or group standardized achievement test of specific academic ability in that field. The Canal Winchester School District uses the Utilization of Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) as its achievement assessment.

### InView Ability Assessment

The InView Ability assessment will be administered to students in grades 3 and 6. This assessment is similar to an I.Q. test. A score of 128 or higher is needed for identification as superior cognitive.



### Utilization of Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

The Canal Winchester Local School District will administer the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) in grades K-8. This academic assessment is given **three** times during the school year and measures student achievement in the areas of math and reading. This assessment is also used to identify gifted students according to the OAC 3301-51-15. With multiple administrations of MAP during the course of the school year, we are able to monitor student academic achievement and optimize student growth. MAP scores can be obtained from the student’s teacher. Parents receive a state identification letter if their child scores at or above the 95th percentile in an academic area and/or achieves a qualifying score on the cognitive abilities test. Receiving a state identification letter does **not** mean your child is being offered gifted services.

Since MAP administrations are three times per school year, student results are automatically reviewed and parents will not need to request that their child be retested.

Students are first evaluated for formal gifted services at the end of grade 3. Based on the criteria, students can qualify for placement in the pull-out math/language arts class(es). Once placed, students remain in the pull-out (loop) for both 4th and 5th grades.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & SPECIFIC SERVICES

### General Information



While the State of Ohio requires districts to identify gifted students, it does not require districts to offer gifted services or mandate service eligibility. The Canal Winchester Local School District is committed to supporting the learning needs of all children.

The district determines criteria for placement in gifted classes both at the elementary and middle school levels. The purpose of establishing qualifying criteria is to ensure the most appropriate placement for students. Appropriate academic placement is that in which a student is able to meet with success while being challenged, required to develop critical thinking in the content area, and progress at a pace commensurate with ability.

### Grades K-3

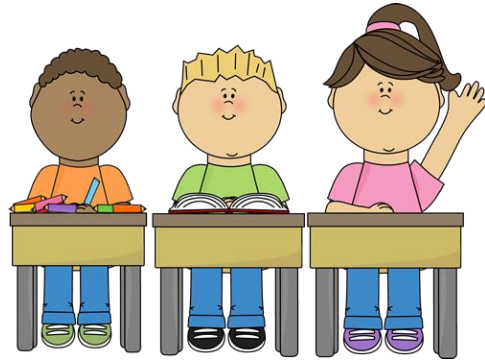
Classroom teachers provide curricular extensions and enrichment opportunities for students who perform at high levels of academic achievement. One measure of academic achievement is obtained from the MAP testing. Eligibility for gifted services is determined each spring and is based on the most **recent** set of test scores beginning in 3rd grade.



Students designated as having Superior Cognitive Ability and/or Specific Academic Ability in reading and/or mathematics in the 3rd grade may be clustered and serviced in the regular classroom. The regular classroom teacher will differentiate instruction and provide enrichment activities.

## Grades 4 & 5

Formal gifted services begin in grade 4. Determination for these classes are made at the end of third grade. Students in grades 4 and 5 who have met the criteria below in reading or math will be placed in pull out classes.



- Superior Cognitive Identification – Cognitive ability score of 128 or above. (Placed in both reading and math classes.)

**OR**

- Specific Academic gifted identification. A score of the 95th percentile or above on **at least one** of the three administered MAP assessments in the current school year AND a score between the 92nd and 94th percentile on **at least one** of the 3 MAP administrations in the same subject. These classes are called Enrichment Classes and are taught by a Gifted Intervention Specialist.

**Please Note:** Any student in 4th grade who meets the dual score criteria on the MAP assessments will be placed in the pull-out class in 5th grade.

**Students who qualify with dual scores at any grade from 3rd on, will be placed in Enrichment and Seminar classes through 8th grade.**

## Grades 6-8

In grades 6-8, qualifying students are grouped in math and/or language arts classes that are taught by a content area teacher who receives on-going professional development for teaching gifted students. These classes are “Seminar”



classes. The curriculum map is designed to ensure rigor and appropriate academic challenge that goes both beyond and in more depth than the regular grade-level curriculum.

Students who have previously participated in 4th and 5th grade Enrichment classes and have met the dual score eligibility criteria will be placed in Seminar classes unless the child or parent elects to decline participation.

- Superior Cognitive Identification – Cognitive ability score of 128 or above.

**OR**

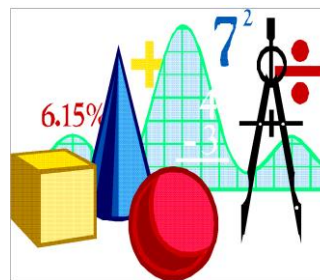
- Specific Academic gifted identification. A score of the 95th percentile or above on **at least one** of the three administered MAP assessments in the current school year **AND** a score between the 92nd and 94th percentile on **at least one** of the 3 MAP administrations.

Students who qualify with dual scores at any grade from 3rd on, will be placed in Enrichment and Seminar classes through 8th grade.

If and when space allows, students will be rank ordered and offered a one year waiver for seats that may be available.

## Algebra I

Seventh grade students participating in seminar math can be considered for Algebra I in 8th grade. Students must achieve a qualifying score on both the Iowa Readiness test and the 8th grade end of course exam. In addition, the 7th grade math teachers may refer non-seminar students to take the placement exams. Specific objective criteria will determine which students may be candidates for the algebra placement exams based on multiple criteria including MAP scores.



In grade 8, qualifying students may be placed in the Algebra I class. This class is considered an accelerated class placement and begins the student's high school transcript.



### Please Note

Students may be counseled out of a pull-out class or a seminar class if and when it is determined that it is not an appropriate placement for the student at any grade level.

## Grades 9-12



High school students may enroll in Honors classes, Advanced Placement classes, College Credit Plus courses, Dual Enrollment or a combination of these courses. For more information, please contact the high school guidance office.



## New Gifted Students

Students who are new to the Canal Winchester Local School District from another district and have a previous gifted identification will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Documentation of gifted identification from the previous school is required. The district shall accept scores on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education provided by other school districts and appropriately trained personnel outside the school district R.C. 3301.07 (K), 3324.01 – 3324.07, 3315.09, 3317.024(0) no older than 24 months in order to qualify for gifted services in Canal Winchester.

Eligibility for gifted services in Canal Winchester cannot be determined until proper documentation is received. Additional testing may be required for services.



## Acceleration

Acceleration is an option at every grade level and/or an individual subject and is based on an individual referral from a teacher or parent. Once a referral is received, a review process will be conducted. All data is collected, and the Acceleration Team will meet and make a recommendation. A student may be accelerated when his/her demonstrated achievement as well as his/her measured ability significantly exceeds that of grade level peers. The student must satisfactorily complete subject matter at the current grade and also demonstrate proficiency in the skills and knowledge of that subject for the succeeding grade or academic sequence.

## Appeal Procedure

An appeal may be made by the parent and/or guardian for reconsideration of the results of any part of the identification process which would include the screening procedure or instrument used which results in identification, the scheduling of a student for assessment, the placement of a student for services, and/or receipt of services.

Parents should submit a letter to the Gifted Coordinator, Rita Glavan, Canal Winchester Local School District, 100 Washington Street, Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110, outlining the nature of the concern. The Gifted Coordinator will convene a meeting with the parent, which may include other school personnel. A written final decision will be issued within 30 days of the appeal and include the reasons for that decision.



## Additional Options

Additional enrichment options are available in the district such as Science Fair, Battle of the Books, Model UN, Science Olympiad, National Honor Society, etc.

