

Canal Winchester  
Local School  
District

100 Washington Street  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110  
614-833-2172

**Identification & Services  
For Gifted Students**



**Gifted Coordinators**

Leigh Ann Hewitt  
[lhewitt@canalwin.k12.oh.](mailto:lhewitt@canalwin.k12.oh.)

and

Linda M. Landis  
[mlandis@canalwin.k12.oh.us](mailto:mlandis@canalwin.k12.oh.us)

## 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. The program creates opportunities for students to experience higher levels of learning such as analyzing and 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.

### Definition

**“Gifted”** means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment and who are identified under division (A), (B), (C), (D), of section 3324.03 of the Revised Code

## Identification

The district identifies students as having **Superior Cognitive Ability** by the following criteria in accordance with the *Ohio Revised Code Section 3324.03 and the Ohio Rule for Identification and Services for Children Who Are Gifted*.

**Grades 3-8:** A score of 127 or higher on the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) or a similar score on other state approved test.

The district identifies students as having a **Specific Academic Ability** by the following criteria in accordance with the *Ohio Revised Code Section 3324.03 and the Ohio Rule for Identification and Services for Children Who Are Gifted*.

**Grades 3-8:** A score of 95% or higher in a specific academic category including Reading, Math, Social Studies and Science on the Terra Nova Achievement Test or a similar score on other state approved test.

All students are tested in second and fifth grades. Students in third, fourth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades, who are not scheduled for district-wide testing, may be tested individually or in a group testing situation at the request of a parent or teacher.



## Please Note:

Other standardized tests approved by the State of Ohio may be used for identification as needed.

All identifications are permanent under the “once identified, always identified” policy. But, this does not mean that an identified child will always receive services. A committee of administrators, regular education teachers, gifted intervention specialists, and the gifted coordinators will review data before any identification and/or determination of services is finalized.

In accordance with the law, Canal Winchester Schools:

- ◆ Provides two opportunities a year for screening
- ◆ Whole grade testing is conducted in the spring for all second and fifth graders. In addition, small group and individual testing is done in the fall and spring.
- ◆ The screening of students for identification is done in accordance to the district's *Identification of Children Who are Gifted* pamphlet which can be found in each school building office.
- ◆ Parents will be notified of the outcome within 30 days.
- ◆ Accepts scores from appropriate tests provided by other Ohio districts.



## Services

While the State Department of Education requires school districts in Ohio to identify students as gifted, there is no requirement that gifted services be provided. Identification does not guarantee placement into a program.

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.

Canal Winchester Schools provide quality enrichment instruction for students who need a more challenging and advanced curriculum.

Testing for the identification process is provided to students at specific times during the school year. Parents may request testing from August 15<sup>th</sup> through September

15<sup>th</sup> of any given year. Students may only be tested once during a 24 month period.

The Canal Winchester School District's identification and services process does not discriminate on the basis of race, color or nationality. Testing options are available for culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

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

## Specific Services

Students designated as having Superior Cognitive Ability in the 3rd grade may be clustered and serviced in the regular classroom. The Intervention Specialist will provide inclusion instruction and activities.

Students designated as Specific Academic Ability in Reading and Math may be clustered and serviced in the regular classroom. The regular classroom teacher will differentiate and the Intervention Specialist may provide inclusion instruction and activities.



Students designated as having Superior Cognitive Ability and/or Specific Academic Ability in Reading and/or Mathematics in grades 4-5 receive pullout services. The Gifted Intervention Specialists provide the instruction. Students may also be grouped in clusters to receive gifted services. This placement will override other classroom assignments in reading and math.

Students designated as having Superior Cognitive Ability and/or Specific Academic Ability in Reading and/or Math in grades 6-8 may be placed in Accelerated Enrichment Classes known as Seminar Classes in Canal Winchester. This shall be determined by achievement and ability test scores as well as past academic performance.

Students designated as having Superior Cognitive Ability and/or Specific Academic Ability in grades 9-12 may be placed in Honors classes, Advanced Placement classes, Post-Secondary Enrollment or a combination of the three. This shall be based on achievement and ability test scores as well as past academic performance.

Students in grades 3-12 designated as having Superior Cognitive and or Specific Academic Ability may be offered additional opportunities for services as these become available. These may include, but are not limited to, Battle of the Books, Science Olympiad, Sunshine Math, Math Counts, Ohio Model UN, Exchange City and Science Fair.

All student services will be aligned with the regular classroom curriculum and follow the Ohio Department of Education Academic Content Standards.