## <u>Instruction</u>

## **Academic Program Extensions for the Gifted**

Gifted and talented students are those with exceptional ability in academic subjects, high level thought processes, divergent thinking, creativity, and the arts. All gifted and talented students shall have an opportunity to participate in appropriate educational programs within budgetary constraints. The purpose of such educational programs is to provide a challenging academic experience in which high ability students can reach their full potential.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent to develop a gifted program that provides for:

- 1. A documented process that utilizes appropriate criteria for the identification of gifted and talented students. The process is to be based upon multiple measurement techniques and ensure that all students have equal access to the identification process. Eligibility to participate in the gifted program shall be conditioned solely upon the student's identification as gifted or talented. Race, religion, sex, disability, and social economic, linguistic, ethnic, and family background will not be considered in determining eligibility for participation.
- 2. Educational programs that provide a developmentally appropriate progression of services from one grade level to the next and equity of services across all grade levels.
- 3. Qualified instructional and administrative personnel with appropriate knowledge, training, and experience to implement the program.
- 4. Staff development programs addressing the need for all teachers to be knowledgeable about the characteristics and learning needs of the gifted and talented students.
- 5. Procedures to foster cooperative relationships among classroom teachers, parents, and the teachers assigned to the gifted program.
- 6. Procedures to foster parental involvement.
- 7. Procedures to continually evaluate the placement and progress of students in the gifted program with periodic progress reports issued to parents.

The Superintendent shall submit an annual report on the status of the District's gifted program to the Board of Education. The report shall include an evaluation of program effectiveness in meeting the needs of gifted and talented students.

## **Program for the Gifted**

The Superintendent or designee shall implement an education program for gifted and talented learners. If the State Superintendent of Education issues a Request for Proposals because sufficient State funding is available to support local programs of gifted education, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board concerning the feasibility and advisability of developing a "plan for gifted education" that would qualify for State funding.

Eligibility to participate in the gifted program shall not be conditioned upon race, religion, sex, disability, or any factor other than the student's identification as gifted or talented learner.

In order to allow the School Board to monitor this policy, the Superintendent or designee shall report at least annually on the status of the District's gifted program.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/14A-5 et seq.

23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 227.

## LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.61, 5/2-3.62, and 5/14A-1 et seq.

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