



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC First Reading of Policy EHBB (LOCAL) – Special Programs: Gifted and Talented Students

SUBMITTED BY: Pamela Juarez **OF:** Associate Superintendent of Instruction

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: August 17, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve First Reading of Policy EHBB (LOCAL): Special Programs: Gifted and Talented Students

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

PROPOSED REVISIONS

NOMINATION / REFERRAL

Students may be nominated/referred for the gifted and talented program at any time by ~~administrators,~~ teachers, counselors, parents, or other interested persons. ~~Nominations shall be considered on an individual basis as outlined in the District's gifted~~

SCREENING AND TALENTED (GT) IDENTIFICATION TIME LINE: GENERAL SCREENING IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA

The District shall provide assessment opportunities to complete the screening and identification process for nominated/referred students ~~is initiated in the fall and completed in the spring of each year, with identified students beginning services the next~~ at least once per school year.

~~Criteria to identify gifted and talented students shall be established in the Board-approved program for the gifted and talented. The criteria shall be specific to the state definition of gifted and talented and shall ensure the fair assessment of students with special needs, such as the culturally different, the economically disadvantaged, and students with disabilities.~~

PARENTAL CONSENT

~~Written~~ The District shall obtain written parental consent ~~shall be obtained~~ before any special testing or individual assessment is conducted as part of the screening and identification process. All student information collected during the screening and identification process shall be an educational record, subject to the protections set out in policies at FL.

IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA

The Board-approved program for the gifted and talented shall establish criteria to identify gifted and talented students. The criteria shall be specific to the state definition of gifted and talented and shall ensure the fair assessment of students with special needs, such as the culturally different, the economically disadvantaged, and students with disabilities.

SELECTION

~~A selection committee shall evaluate each nominated student according to the established criteria and shall select those students for whom gifted program placement is the most appropriate educational setting. The committee shall be composed of at least three professional educators, teachers and/or administrators, who have received training in the nature and needs of gifted students and shall be established for the District.~~

ASSESSMENTS

Data collected through both objective and subjective assessments shall be measured against the criteria approved by the Board to determine individual eligibility for the program. Assessment tools ~~shall be~~ may include, but are not limited to, the following: aptitude/ intelligence tests, parent/teacher jot-downs, grade averages, behavioral checklists completed by teachers and parents, student conferences portfolios and available student work products.

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SELECTION

A selection committee shall evaluate each nominated/referred student according to the established criteria and shall identify those students for whom placement in the gifted and talented program is the most appropriate educational setting. The committee shall be composed of at least three professional educators who have received training in the nature and needs of gifted students, as required by law, and shall be established for the District.

NOTIFICATION

~~Parents and~~ The District shall provide written notification to parents of students who qualify for services through the District's gifted and talented program. Participation in any program or services provided for gifted students is shall be voluntary. The, and the District shall obtain written permission of the students and from the parents before placing a student is placed in a gifted program.

REASSESSMENTS

~~The District shall perform routine inventory reassessments in transition grades between elementary school and middle school and between middle school and high school.~~

~~TRANSFER STUDENTS~~
REASSESSMENT

The District shall reassess students to determine appropriate program placement when a student moves from grade 5 to grade 6 and when a student moves from grade 8 to grade 9.

TRANSFER STUDENTS
INTERDISTRICT

When a student identified as gifted by a previous school district ~~transfers into enrolls in~~ the District, ~~the student's records shall be reviewed by~~ the selection committee shall review the student's records to determine if placement in the District's program for gifted and talented students is appropriate.

The selection committee shall make ~~its~~ a determination within 30 ~~school/business calendar~~ days of the student's enrollment in the District and shall base ~~its~~ the decision on the transferred records, observation reports of District teachers who instruct the student, and student and parent conferences.

FURLOUGH

~~Students~~ [See FDD(LEGAL) for information regarding transfer students and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children]

INTRADISTRICT

A student who are transfers from one campus in the District to the same grade level at another District campus shall continue to receive services in the District's gifted and talented program.

FURLOUGHS

The District may place on a furlough any student who is unable to maintain satisfactory performance or whose educational needs are not being met within the structure of the gifted and talented program may be placed on. A furlough may be initiated by the selection committee. The purpose of such a furlough is to provide the

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~~student an opportunity to attain performance goals established by the selection committee. A District, the parent, or the student.~~

~~In accordance with administrative regulations, a furlough also may shall be granted at the request of the student for specified reasons and/or parent.~~

~~A student may be furloughed for a specified period of time from six weeks to one semester, as deemed appropriate by the selection committee. At the end of the a furlough, the student's progress shall be reassessed, and the student may reenter the gifted program, be removed from the program, or be placed on another furlough. A student shall not be eligible for more than two furloughs throughout his/her academic career. A student will automatically be removed, or be exited from the gifted and talented program after two furloughs.~~

EXIT PROVISIONS

~~Student The District shall monitor student performance in the program shall be monitored. A student shall be removed from the program. If at any time the selection committee determines it is in the student's best interest of the student and his or her educational needs, the committee may exit a student from the program.~~ If a student or parent requests removal from the program, the selection committee shall meet with the parent and student before honoring the request.

APPEALS

~~Parents A parent or students student~~ may appeal any final decision of the selection committee regarding selection for or ~~removal exit~~ from the gifted program. Appeals shall only be considered when parents or students initiate the process within ten school/business days from the date of notification. The appeal should be directed to the director of gifted and talented/advanced academics or designee for consideration. Any subsequent appeals shall be made in accordance with FNG(LOCAL) beginning at Level Two.

PROGRAM
EVALUATION

The ~~District shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of the District's~~ gifted program ~~shall be evaluated periodically~~, and ~~the results of the~~ evaluation ~~shall be used to modify and update the District and campus improvement plans.~~ The District shall include parents in the evaluation process and shall share the information ~~shall be shared~~ with Board members, administrators, teachers, counselors, students in the gifted and talented program, and the community.

COMMUNITY
AWARENESS

The District shall ensure that information about the District's gifted and talented program is available to parents and community members and that they have an opportunity to develop an understanding of and support for the program.