



WOODBIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road – South
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D. – Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

TO: Woodbridge Board of Education

FROM: Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D., Superintendent

DATE: May 16, 2022

RE: May 17 Regular Meeting:
Consent Agenda: Accept Policies for 30-Day Review:
6172.1, “Gifted and Talented Students Program”

Based on this week’s meeting of the Policy Committee, please find attached a proposed revision of Policy 6172.1 based on Connecticut Public Acts 19-184 and 21-199, which regulate certain aspects of the processes for identifying students as gifted and talented. The policy revision is based on the current recommendations of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE), and the proposed changes are represented in red.

Instruction

Gifted ~~Children~~ and Talented Students Program

~~Gifted students are those with outstanding learning abilities or outstanding talent in the creative arts.~~

~~The school district shall provide educational programs for the gifted and talented including a broad spectrum of learning experiences to:~~

- ~~1. Broaden and deepen knowledge and to develop skills necessary for the student to function successfully in society;~~
- ~~2. Encourage students to excel in areas of special competence and interest.~~

~~Though early identification of the gifted and talented is important, it is essential that the identification of these students be recognized as an initial step in a continuing educational process. Also, special abilities and skills appear at different times in children's lives.~~

The Woodbridge Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to identify gifted and talented students within the District.

For purposes of this policy, “gifted and talented students” means a child identified by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) as: (a) possessing demonstrated or potential abilities that give evidence of very superior intellectual, creative or specific academic capability; and (b) needing differentiated instruction or services beyond those being provided in the general education program in order to realize the child’s intellectual, creative or specific academic potential. The term shall include children with extraordinary learning ability and children with outstanding talent in the creative arts. For purposes of this policy, “outstanding talent in the creative arts” means a child identified by the Planning and Placement Team as gifted and talented on the basis of demonstrated or potential achievement in music, the visual arts, or the performing arts.

The Superintendent or his/her designee will develop procedures for an ongoing equitable identification process for gifted and talented students that includes multiple measures of identification in compliance with guidance provided by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Upon the identification of a student as gifted and talented, the District shall provide electronic notice of such identification to the parent/guardian of such student. Such notice shall include, but need not be limited to:

1. an explanation of how such student was identified as gifted and/or talented;
2. the contact information for the District’s employee in charge of the provision of services to gifted and talented students, or, if there is no such employee, the District’s employee in charge of the provision of special education and related services;
3. the employee at the State Department of Education who has been designated as responsible for providing information and assistance to Boards of Education and parents or guardians of students related to gifted and talented students, pursuant to section 10-3e of the Connecticut General Statutes; and
4. any associations in the State of Connecticut that provide support to gifted and talented students.

The District, should it decide to offer services to the gifted and talented, shall utilize the guidelines developed and promulgated by the Connecticut State Department of Education for providing services to those students.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-76a-(e) Definitions.

10-76d(e) Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services.

Public Act 19-184, “An Act Concerning the Provision of Special Education”

Public Act 21-199, “An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Statutes Relating to Education and Workforce Development”

Policy adopted: ~~May 20, 2014~~

WOODBIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Woodbridge, Connecticut