

#6080.1.1

**Equitable Identification of Gifted  
and Talented Students**

**(formerly Educating Students in the Gifted and Talented Program)**

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The Madison Board of Education (the “Board”) will use equitable methods to identify students enrolled in the Madison Public Schools (the “District”) that have an extraordinary learning ability and/or outstanding talent in the creative arts, the development of which requires programs or services beyond the level of those ordinarily provided in regular school programs. Such students will be identified as gifted and/or talented.

**I. Definitions**

For purposes of this policy:

“Extraordinary learning ability” means a child identified by the planning and placement team as gifted and talented on the basis of either performance on relevant standardized measuring instruments, or demonstrated or potential achievement or intellectual creativity, or both.

“Gifted and talented” means a child identified by the planning and placement team 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 includes children with extraordinary learning ability (“gifted”) and children with outstanding talent in the creative arts (“talented”).

“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.

“Planning and placement team (“PPT”),” for purposes of the evaluation, identification or determination of the specific educational needs of a child who may be gifted or talented,

34 means a group of certified or licensed professionals who represent each of the teaching,  
35 administrative, and pupil personnel staffs, and who participate equally in the decision  
36 making process.

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38 **II. Referral**

39 Any student enrolled in grades kindergarten through twelve, inclusive, in a District  
40 school may be referred to the PPT to determine eligibility as gifted and talented. A  
41 referral may come from any source, including the student's teacher, an administrator, the  
42 student's parent/guardian, or the student.

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44 **III. Evaluation and Identification**

45 The PPT shall be responsible for conducting evaluations and identifying whether students are  
46 eligible as gifted and talented, and shall meet, as needed during the school year to determine  
47 the eligibility of groups of children for whom evaluation and identification as gifted and  
48 talented are planned. When a child has been individually referred to the PPT for consideration  
49 as a gifted and talented child, the PPT shall provide the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) with  
50 written notice of the referral.

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52 The Board requires the use of multiple methods of identification of gifted and talented  
53 students. The PPT will use the following methods of evaluation in determining whether a  
54 student is eligible as gifted and talented:

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56 Group Assessment. The PPT may use an appropriate standardized test administered to  
57 all students in a particular grade. In administering standardized tests, the PPT will use a  
58 locally normed cut score to identify students for consideration for gifted and talented  
59 classification. Parent/guardian consent is not required prior to the administration of a  
60 group assessment.

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62 Individual Evaluation. Individual evaluations may be recommended by the PPT in  
63 appropriate circumstances, such as when there is a possibility of identifying the student  
64 as gifted and talented in areas that are not typically addressed by large-scale standardized

65 tests, such as social studies, a technical discipline, music, creative arts, or performing  
66 arts. The PPT may also recommend an individual assessment for a student referred to the  
67 PPT for an evaluation when the student is in a grade level in which group assessments  
68 are not administered. Before a student is individually evaluated for identification as  
69 gifted or talented, the PPT must secure the written consent from a parent/guardian.

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71 After the PPT has determined from an individual or group assessment that a student has  
72 potential for or has demonstrated extraordinary learning ability or outstanding talent in the  
73 creative arts, the student will be identified as gifted and talented only if the PPT determines  
74 that the child requires differentiated instruction or services beyond those provided in the  
75 general education program in order to realize the child's intellectual, creative or specific  
76 academic potential.

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78 The results of the PPT meeting concerning a determination of the child's identification as  
79 gifted or talented shall be provided to the parent or guardian electronically or, if the District  
80 does not have the parent or guardian's e-mail address on file, in writing. Such notice shall  
81 include, but is not limited to, (1) an explanation of how such student was identified as gifted  
82 and talented; and (2) the contact information for (A) the District employee in charge of the  
83 provision of services to gifted and talented students, or, if there is no such employee, the  
84 District employee in charge of the provision of special education and related services, (B) the  
85 employee at the Connecticut State Department of Education who has been designated as  
86 responsible for providing information and assistance to boards of education and parents or  
87 guardians of students related to gifted and talented students and, (C) any associations in the  
88 state that provide support to gifted and talented students.

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90 If a parent/guardian disagrees with the results of the evaluation conducted by the PPT, the  
91 parent/guardian has a right to a hearing.

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93 The District may identify up to ten (10) percent of the total student population for the District  
94 as gifted and talented.

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96 **IV. Provision of Services**

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98 The provision of services for gifted and talented students by the Board is discretionary.

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100 *[Note: The Board may wish to include here specific details concerning the services provided*  
101 *within the District, if any, or direct the Superintendent or designee to develop*  
102 *administrative regulations detailing the services to be provided to gifted and talented*  
103 *students.]*

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105 Legal Reference:

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107 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-76a

108 Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-76xx

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110 Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-76a-1

111 Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-76a-2

112 Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-76d-1

113 Conn. Agencies Regs. § 10-76d-9(c)

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115 Connecticut State Department of Education, *Gifted and Talented Education: Guidance*  
116 *Regarding Identification and Service* (March 2019), available at [https://portal.ct.gov/-](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Gifted-and-Talented/Gifted-and-Talented-Education---Guidance.pdf)  
117 [/media/SDE/Gifted-and-Talented/Gifted-and-Talented-Education---Guidance.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Gifted-and-Talented/Gifted-and-Talented-Education---Guidance.pdf)

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