

Northwestern Local Schools recognizes that some students perform or show potential for performing at remarkable high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience or environment. In compliance with Ohio law, these students are identified as gifted and appropriate educational opportunities are offered to address their learning needs. The following information gives Northwestern School's policy for the identification of and services for students who are gifted.

IDENTIFICATION of GIFTED STUDENTS

In 1999, the State of Ohio adopted House Bill 282, requiring all public school districts in Ohio to identify gifted students in kindergarten through grade 12. In 2000, the State of Ohio passed legislation setting guidelines for the identification of, and services for, children who are gifted.

Area of Identification	Criteria to be Identified as Gifted
Superior Cognitive Ability	Two standard deviations above the mean minus the standard error of measure on a state approved ability test
Creative Thinking Ability	One standard deviation above the mean minus the standard error of measure on a state approved ability test plus checklist score in the superior range
Reading	National percentile of 95 or higher on a state approved achievement test
Math	National percentile of 95 or higher on a state approved achievement test
Science	National percentile of 95 or higher on a state approved achievement test
Social Studies	National percentile of 95 or higher on a state approved achievement test
Visual Arts	Portfolio assessment <i>and</i> checklist score in superior range
Performing Arts: Music, Dance, and Drama/Theatre	Audition <i>and</i> checklist score in superior range

- Anyone, including school personnel, parents, peers, or the student himself, may refer a student for gifted evaluation.
- All students in first grade are screened for gifted identification in superior cognitive ability and creative thinking ability using the Cognitive Abilities Test.
- Students may be tested for ability and achievement individually or in small groups using a state approved test.
- NO individual or small group testing will be conducted without written parent permission except for whole grade testing.
- Parents shall be notified of testing results within 30 days after the test results are available.

- Achievement or intelligence test scores from other districts may be used to identify students new to Northwestern Local Schools. However, the testing instrument must be part of the list of approved instruments published by the Ohio Department of Education.
- Parent permission is not required for whole grade screening.