



# Gifted and Talented Program

JESSIEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALEX BATES- GT COORDINATOR

# Definition of gifted and talented in Arkansas

- ▶ The following definition shall guide districts in providing services and opportunities for students identified as gifted and talented:
  - ▶ Gifted and talented children and youth are those of high potential or ability whose learning characteristics and educational needs require qualitatively differentiated educational experiences and/or services.
  - ▶ Possession of these talents and gifts, or the potential for their development, will be evidenced through an interaction of **above average intellectual ability, task commitment and /or motivation, and creative ability.**

# Elementary GT program

- ▶ **K-2 students are provided whole group enrichment at least 30 minutes per week** by a teacher trained in the Talents Unlimited program.
- ▶ Formal evaluation begins at the end of 2nd grade for placement in the program beginning in 3rd grade.
- ▶ **3rd-5th grade GT students are instructed for 150 minutes each week by grade level** by the GT coordinator in the GT room

# Middle School GT Program

- ▶ 6th-8th grade GT identified students should enroll in at least one pre-AP class.
- ▶ **Pre-AP teachers are trained in pre-AP differentiation and strategies at least every 5 years with a college board approved training.**
- ▶ All GT identified students are given differentiation through teachers trained in secondary content regardless if the class is pre-AP or not.
- ▶ **GT students may participate in chess, Quiz Bowl, and other competitions as they are made available.**
- ▶ **GT students meet as a group with the GT coordinator during their eight period study hall.**

# High School GT Program

- ▶ **Pre-AP, AP, and concurrent credit classes serve our high school GT students. All GT students should enroll in at least one of these options.**
- ▶ Counselors and the GT Coordinator meet as needed with GT students about Arkansas Governor's School, scholarships, Advanced Placement, and other opportunities.
- ▶ **GT identified students meet as a group with the GT Coordinator monthly.**
- ▶ Students may earn college credit while in high school through AP exams and concurrent credit enrollment

# Referrals for evaluation for GT program

- ▶ **Anyone may refer a student.**
- ▶ Forms are available on the district's website.
- ▶ Evaluations are conducted in the spring for placement the following fall.
- ▶ Permission to collect data is obtained from the referred student's guardian(s).
- ▶ A case study is developed using a variety of assessments which may include but not be limited to: **school ability assessments, creativity assessment, teacher observations, parent questionnaires/checklists, student work samples, class performance/grades, school/state assessments.**
  - ▶ **OLSAT and Torrance Testing**
- ▶ A committee examines each student's case study to determine best placement.
- ▶ Placement decisions may be appealed to the placement committee. Appeal decisions are final

# Gifted Traits

## Cognitive

- ▶ Keen power of abstraction
- ▶ Interest in problem-solving and applying concepts
- ▶ Voracious and early reader
- ▶ Large vocabulary
- ▶ Intellectual curiosity
- ▶ Power of critical thinking, skepticism, self-criticism
- ▶ Persistent, goal-directed behavior
- ▶ Independence in work and study
- ▶ Diversity of interests and abilities

## Creative

- ▶ Creativeness and inventiveness
- ▶ Keen sense of humor
- ▶ Ability for fantasy
- ▶ Openness to stimuli, wide interests
- ▶ Intuitiveness
- ▶ Flexibility
- ▶ Independence in attitude and social behavior
- ▶ Self-acceptance and unconcern for social norms
- ▶ Radicalism
- ▶ Aesthetic and moral commitment to self-selected work

# Gifted Traits

## Affective

- ▶ **Unusual emotional depth and intensity**
- ▶ **Sensitivity or empathy to the feelings of others**
- ▶ High expectations of self and others, often leading to feelings of frustration...**Perfectionism**
- ▶ **Heightened self-awareness**, accompanied by feelings of being different
- ▶ **Easily wounded, need for emotional support**
- ▶ **Need for consistency** between abstract values and personal actions
- ▶ **Advanced levels of moral judgment**
- ▶ **Idealism and sense of justice**

## Behavioral

- ▶ **Spontaneity**
- ▶ **Boundless enthusiasm**
- ▶ **Highly energetic**—needs little sleep or down time
- ▶ **Constantly questions**
- ▶ **Insatiable curiosity**
- ▶ **Impulsive**, eager and spirited
- ▶ **Perseverance**—strong determination in areas of importance
- ▶ **High levels of frustration**—particularly when having difficulty meeting standards of performance (either imposed by self or others)
- ▶ **Volatile temper, especially related to perceptions of failure**

# Bright Child or Gifted Learner

## Bright Child

- ▶ Knows the answers
- ▶ Is interested
- ▶ 6-8 repetitions for mastery
- ▶ Understands ideas
- ▶ Enjoys peers
- ▶ Grasps the meaning
- ▶ Completes assignments
- ▶ Enjoys school
- ▶ Absorbs information
- ▶ Is pleased with own learning

## Gifted Learner

- ▶ Asks the questions
- ▶ Is highly curious
- ▶ 1-2 repetitions for mastery
- ▶ Constructs abstractions
- ▶ Prefers adults
- ▶ Draws inferences
- ▶ Initiates projects
- ▶ Enjoys learning
- ▶ Manipulates information
- ▶ Is highly self-critical