

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

EHBB
(LOCAL)

NOMINATION	Students may be nominated for the gifted and talented program at any time by teachers, counselors, parents, or other interested persons.
IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA	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 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.
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 who have received training in the nature and needs of gifted students and shall be established at each campus.
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 may include but not be limited to the following: achievement tests, intelligence tests, creativity tests, behavioral checklists completed by teachers and parents, teacher nominations based on classroom observations, student/parent conferences, and student work products, if available. Assessments take place once each semester for elementary (grades 1-6) and secondary students. Nominated kindergarten students shall be assessed once during the spring semester. Students may be reassessed after one year.
NOTIFICATION	Parents and students shall be notified in writing upon selection of the student for the gifted program. Participation in any program or services provided for gifted students is voluntary. The District shall obtain written permission of the student and the parents before a student is placed in a gifted program.
REASSESSMENTS	The District shall not perform routine reassessments.
TRANSFER STUDENTS	When a student identified as gifted by a previous school district transfers into the District, the student's records shall be reviewed by the selection committee to determine if placement in the District's program for gifted and talented students is appropriate.

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

Student records shall be forwarded from the sending campus to the receiving campus within one week of the transfer.

FURLOUGH

Students who are unable to maintain satisfactory performance within the structure of the gifted and talented program may be placed on furlough by the selection committee. The purpose of such a furlough is to provide the student an opportunity to attain performance goals established by the selection committee. A furlough also may be granted at the request of the student and/or parent.

A student may be furloughed for a period of time deemed appropriate by the selection committee. At the end of the furlough, the student's progress shall be reassessed, and the student may re-enter the gifted program, be removed from the program, or be placed on another furlough.

EXIT PROVISIONS

Student performance in the program shall be monitored. If a student or parent requests removal from the program, a teacher of the gifted and talented and an administrator shall meet with the parent and student before honoring the request.

APPEALS

Parents or students may appeal any final decision of the selection committee regarding selection for or removal from the gifted program. Appeal shall be made first to the selection committee. Any subsequent appeals shall be made in accordance with FNG(LOCAL) beginning at Level Two.

PROGRAM
EVALUATION

The gifted program shall be evaluated annually and evaluation 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.