

2190P: HIGHLY CAPABLE PROGRAMS

The following procedures shall be employed to nominate, assess and select students to participate in the program:

Nomination

Anyone may nominate a child to the program, including teachers, other staff, parents, students, and members of the community. Nominators will be sent the district's nomination form to recommend a child for consideration in the program.

Assessment

The district will screen each nominee using a matrix, which may include (but is not limited to) the Cognitive Abilities Test – CogAT; teacher recommendation; parent recommendation; district achievement tests; and/or GPA to identify students who qualify for further assessment.

Prior to conducting assessment(s) the district curriculum office shall obtain written parental permission.

Nominees identified through the screening process will be assessed using multiple criteria from a variety of sources and data, including tests that measure cognitive ability, academic achievement and evidence of exceptional creativity. Test results shall be recorded in the district's highly capable database.

Qualification

A matrix of 17 or more with a combined cognitive abilities test score of 3 or higher will typically qualify for placement. Matrix scores between 13 and 15 may be accepted for placement if the student has at least two scores at or above the 92nd percentile on the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). Points for each category are indicated by the shaded column header on the Matrix for Highly Capable Cluster Services which can be obtained by contacting the Camas District Office.

Highly Capable Cluster Appeals

The district shall develop a process and procedures for parents to appeal their child's placement (or lack thereof) in the elementary cluster and middle school Pre-AP program. Appeals process forms and procedures will be determined by the superintendent or his/her designee and can be obtained at the district office. Appeals will be reviewed by the multi-disciplinary team and their review and opinion will be final.

Selection

A multi-disciplinary selection team composed of a district administrator, psychologist or other individual who can interpret cognitive and achievement test results and a teacher will review data that has been collected for each of the nominated students. This committee will also screen and act on any appeals. The district will:

- A. Notify parents of students who have been selected. Parents shall receive a full explanation of the procedures for identification, program options and the appeal process;
- B. Obtain parental permission to provide services and program;
- C. Schedule a meeting of all such parents and solicit a signed Letter of Understanding from each parent who desires to enroll his/her child in the program; and
- D. Share each student's educational plan during regularly-scheduled parent conferences.

Program Design

The District will offer highly capable students the following programs: Options include, but are not limited to: accelerated learning opportunities; academic grouping arrangements that provide intellectual and interest peer group interactions; and district-sponsored competitive magnet programs.

Each individual student or group of students with similar needs shall have a program plan. Services will be made available based on that plan and include a continuum of services.

Reporting

The superintendent or designee shall provide an end-of-year report to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

May 2005
Camas School District
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