

Parent Information
Educational Programming for Identified
Academically Talented Students



Firelands Local Schools
112 North Lake Street
South Amherst, OH 44001
www.firelandsschools.org

or

ESC of Lorain County
Programs and Services for Gifted Students:
www.esclc.org

IDENTIFICATION

The identification process is in compliance with the Ohio Department of Education guidelines, and uses only nationally- normed tests on the state approved list. Subjective criteria are not used.

Referral: Students can be referred for assessment by parents, teachers, or students twice a year. Referral forms are available in the office of each school building or at www.esclc.org.

Screening: Students are screened in grades 2 and 5 using the InView test of cognitive abilities and the Terra Nova for academic abilities.

Assessment: Following screening, small group and individual assessments are provided for potentially gifted students as outlined in the PB-3.

Assurances: The district meets the ODE requirements for evaluation of students who are culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, students with physical and sensory disabilities and students who have limited English proficiency. The district identifies using only state-approved tests which are administered by trained personnel.

Written Education Plans: Education plans are written for all students who are identified and served on a one-year basis.

Outside Testing: The district will accept outside testing for gifted if the test is on the state-approved list.

Transfer Students: The district will review testing from previous schools to determine whether students qualify for services in Firelands.

Acceleration: The district has a state approved plan in place. The specific referral, screening and assessment process is detailed on the Firelands Schools or ESCLC websites.

Appeal: The district has an appeals process for decisions regarding screening and identification. The initial step in the process is to submit a written statement to the building principal explaining your reason for the appeal of identification.

Waiver: The district has a waiver of assignments procedure in place.

Withdrawal: The district has procedures by which parents can withdraw their student from service if they feel the child is unsuccessful in the service or that the service is not meeting the needs of the child. Parents should contact their Gifted Supervisor or Gifted Intervention Specialist for an initial conference. If a student is not achieving or struggling with the

expectation of the service, a parent-teacher conference will determine if this is the most appropriate placement. Withdrawal requires parent permission.

PROGRAM SERVICES

Grade 3 Clustered Language Arts/Math

The Gifted Intervention Specialist (GIS) will work with classroom teachers to differentiate lessons and monitor Written Education Plans (WEPs) for their identified gifted students.

Grades 4-5 Self-Contained Language Arts/Math

The GIS will meet every day with identified gifted learners for reading/language arts and math. The content within this program adds depth and complexity to the content standards in order to meet higher levels of ability.

Grades 6-8 Honors & Gifted Clustered Language Arts/Math

Students meet daily for instruction. Curriculum is extended in depth and breadth.

Language Arts: The classes meet daily for advanced reading and writing. The teacher provides a variety of higher level reading genre choices and activities that are expanded in depth and breadth to reach levels of higher order thinking and written expression.

Math: Students identified gifted in math are clustered together. A math specialist teaches the class. Content goes beyond the grade level standards and differentiates the curriculum to meet their higher levels of ability.

High School Services

Services include Honors classes, AP, and College Credit Plus courses. Students with gifted identifications in specific content areas are provided with WEPs and service is reported to the state.



CRITERIA FOR GIFTED SERVICE

Grade 3 Clustered Classes

Students identified gifted in Superior Cognitive and/or Specific Academic Ability of 95% or above in the subject areas of Reading or Math are deliberately placed in one class. Services are provided by the regular classroom teacher grouped within the regular classroom.

Grades 4-5 Self-Contained Gifted Service

Reading/Math: State-approved Superior Cognitive ID and/or Specific Academic Reading/Math identification at 95% or above.

Grades 6-8 Cluster Classes

Reading/Math: State-approved Superior Cognitive ID and/or Specific Academic Reading Identification at 95% or above.

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Gifted Identification Notice

Specific criteria for identification are used for each area, based upon ODE Guidelines. Teachers, students, and parents may refer children for identification by completing and submitting a referral form available at www.esclc.org.

Written Education Plans

All students identified and served in a gifted program must be on a WEP in compliance with the Ohio Operating Standards. Service is reported to the Ohio Department of Education Office for Exceptional Children.

Written Acceleration Plans

All students who are subject or whole-grade accelerated will receive a Written Acceleration Plan (WAP).

Firelands Local Schools

Administration

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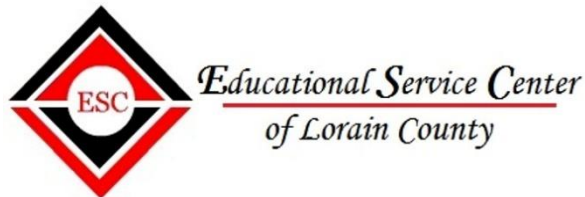
The ESC of Lorain County Gifted Consortium sponsors professional development for gifted educators as well as special events for gifted students that align specific curriculum to state standards:

Professional Development

Three gifted educators workshops
Small group in-district sessions upon request

Countywide Gifted Programs/Services

Classroom Attorney Workshops
Mock Trial
Academic Challenge
Visual Arts Identification
24 Game Semi-Finals/Finals
SpherOlympics
ACT Practice Testing
Artist Workshops
Young Authors



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