

Talented and Gifted Students Program

Talented and gifted students are those with outstanding talent in the creative arts and/or outstanding learning abilities.

The Bethany Public School District (District) may provide educational programs for the talented and/or gifted, within budgetary constraints that include a broad spectrum of learning experiences which increase knowledge and develop skills necessary for the student to function successfully in society while encouraging students to excel in areas of special competence and interest.

Though early identification of the gifted and/or talented is important, it is essential that the identification of these students be recognized as a continuing process in that special abilities and skills appear at different times in the lives of many children and new children are regularly being enrolled in the school.

The identification process is based on a multi-criteria assessment process, typically including both subjective and objective data. It is recognized that identified students may be accommodated in a variety of ways, such as, but not limited to, the provision for supplementary materials, extensions to the curriculum and accelerated placement options.

Upon the identification of a student as talented and/or gifted, the District shall provide notification of such identification to the parents/guardians of such student. Such notice shall include, but need not be limited to:

1. an explanation of how such student was identified as talented and/or gifted;
2. the contact information for the District's employee in charge of the provision of services to talented and gifted students, or, if there is no such employee, the District's employee in charge of the provision of special education and related services;
3. the employee at the State Department of Education (SDE) who has been designated as responsible for providing information and assistance to boards of education and parents/guardians of students related to talented and gifted students, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes;
4. any association in the state that provides support to talented and/or gifted students.

The District may utilize the guidelines, developed and promulgated by the SDE, for providing services to those students. The guidelines include best practices for the District to consider for 1) addressing the intellectual, social and emotional needs of gifted and talented students in the school and 2) providing teacher training and professional development on talented and gifted students.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes § 10-3
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-76a(e)
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-76d(e)
 Public Act 19-184

Policy adopted: June 10, 2015
Policy revised: December 13, 2017
Policy revised: January 8, 2020