

NORTH SCHUYLKILL SD

15 Academy Lane

Gifted Education Plan Assurances (Chapter 16) | 2021 - 2024

CHAPTER 16

Chapter 16 of the PA Code specifies how Pennsylvania will meet its obligations to suspected and identified gifted students who require gifted education to reach their potential. Gifted students are to be provided with quality gifted education services and programs. Requirements for Gifted Education Plans can be found in the Pennsylvania Code (22 Pa Code §16.32).

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 4.13(e) (relating to strategic plans) and 22 Pa. Code § 16.4, each school district shall develop and implement a gifted education plan every 6 years.

- a. The plan shall include the process for identifying children who are gifted and in need of specially designed instruction, as well as the gifted special education programs offered.
- b. The school districts shall make its gifted education plan available for public inspection and comment for a minimum of 28 days prior to approval of the plan by the school district's board of directors.
- c. Each school district shall provide, as the Department may require, reports of students, personnel and program elements, including the costs of the elements, which are relevant to the delivery of gifted education. (22 Pa. Code § 16.4)

1. Describe your district's public notice procedures conducted annually to inform the public of the gifted education services AND programs offered (newspaper, student handbooks, school website, etc.).

The North Schuylkill School District meets its child find awareness by publishing an annual public notice in our school calendar, in the local newspaper, on the district website and in student handbooks?. The Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 also issues a public awareness notice on behalf of the school district. The school calendar is distributed to every family in the school district and is also made available to district residents.

2. Describe your district's process for locating students who are thought to be gifted and may need specially designed instruction.

In accordance with PDE regulations set forth regarding the screening process for gifted, the North Schuylkill School District completes procedures to seek out potential gifted students for identification. The procedures include reviewing GPA, advanced scores on PSSA ELA and Mathematics assessments, and/or reviewing local district assessments including but not limited to DIBELS and CDT scores. Additionally, the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT), a group administered screener, is administered in Grade 2 to all students during the Spring semester. If a student scores above a 125 on the OLSAT, the Guidance Counselor will complete a gifted screener as set forth by the school district in accordance with criteria set forth by the PA gifted identification process. All other screening procedures, grades K-12, are facilitated through parent request and/or teacher recommendation.

3. Describe your district's procedures for determining ELIGIBILITY (through MULTIPLE CRITERIA) and NEED (based on ACADEMIC STRENGTH) for potentially mentally gifted students (EVALUATION).

After the initial screening process is complete, the following may occur: Students in grades K-12 will be given an individual standardized cognitive test such as the KBIT when consent is received from parents/guardians. The KBIT is a screening measure in addition to the OLSAT. The KBIT provides a brief measure of intelligence when parent permission is obtained. A Gifted Rating Scale will be completed by the student's teacher(s). If the screening criteria is met, a Gifted Permission to Evaluate will be created by the School Psychologist. If screening criteria is NOT met, a letter will be composed by the school's Gifted Education Coordinator to inform parents/guardians of the gifted screening results. Teachers may request a screening for a child in grades K-12 at any time. The Guidance Counselor will forward the information to the Gifted Education Coordinator, School Psychologist, and Special Education Department. Once permission to screen has been received from the parents/guardians, the Guidance Counselor will administer the KBIT in a timely manner (30 days). At any time, parents/guardians may request an evaluation for a child in grades K-12. The person who received the request will forward the information to the Gifted Education Coordinator, School Psychologist, and Special Education Department within 1 day. Once permission to evaluate has

been received back from the parents/guardians, the School Psychologists will complete a Gifted Evaluation within 60 calendar days. If the student is designated with being considered a student who is gifted AND in need of specially designed instruction, a GIEP will be developed within 30 calendar days and presented to the parents/guardians.

4. Describe the gifted programs* that are offered to provide opportunities for acceleration, enrichment, or both. *The word "programs" refers to the CONTINUUM OF SERVICES, not one particular option.

Students will work through the general program with opportunities for subject acceleration and/or individual or small group enrichment (or a combination of both acceleration and enrichment). All programs must be specified through the development and implementation of a GIEP which is based on individual needs. The following represents essential components required for GIEP development. The GIEP must address Present Levels of Educational Performance. The GIEP shall include but is not limited to the results of ability and assessment test scores, group and individual achievement measures, grades, progress on goals, instructional levels, aptitudes, and interests. The GIEP shall address annual goals and short term learning outcomes for each student. The GIEP shall reflect specially designed instruction with location and delivery that is provided to the student. Specially designed instruction reflects how instruction related to the annual goals and short term learning outcomes of the GIEP will be implemented.

Robert J. Ackell
Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer

05/15/2020
Date