

Miller Grove I.S.D.
Gifted and Talented Program

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Miller Grove Independent School District Gifted and Talented Program

Philosophy:

Miller Grove Independent School District strives to provide for the needs of each individual student. We feel that instruction for gifted students must reach beyond the opportunities provided in the regular classroom. Students must be provided the opportunity to interact with intellectual peers as well as chronological peers. These extended opportunities should be in subject matter related experiences, higher-level instructional materials, more complex learning objectives, specialized instructional techniques, and activities/instruction designed to promote the students abilities to the fullest.

Definition of Gifted Students:

Gifted and Talented Students are those who excel consistently or who show the potential to excel in general intellectual ability and productive thinking. Students scoring in the top percent of their grade level shall be identified through the use of multiple criteria and identified as the gifted population in the Miller Grove School District. These students require educational experiences beyond those normally provided by the regular school program. The Miller Grove Independent School District recognizes that students identified as Gifted and Talented can come from all races, socio-economic groups, and geographical locales, and environments.

Student Goals For Gifted and Talented:

1. The Miller Grove Gifted and Talented students will refine their advanced thinking process by making informal, logical, and appropriate decisions concerning real-life problems and situations.
2. The Miller Grove Gifted and Talented students will accept responsibilities for self-directed learning and be encouraged to develop their own productivity in problem solving through planning, research, organizing, manipulating, and evaluating at a higher level than the regular curriculum.
3. The Miller Grove Gifted and Talented students will demonstrate the ability to conceptualize more complex and abstract material through the acquisition of content beyond the regular curriculum.

Goal For Identifying The Gifted:

The Miller Grove Independent School District shall identify students who demonstrate exceptional ability or potential to excel in the areas of general intellectual ability and productive thinking in grades K-12 in order to provide them with a differentiated program that goes beyond the regular program.

Identification Procedures:

The identification of students for the Gifted and Talented Program for grades K-12 will consist of three steps: Nomination, Screening, and Selection. Multiple and specific criteria, including both objective and subjective data as outlined by State guidelines, will be used to select program participants. The criteria are consistent with the areas of giftedness address by the district plan (General intellectual ability and productive thinking ability). Specific identification, selection, entry, transfer, furlough, and exit policies are as follows:

Nomination

1. Students may be nominated by any Miller Grove School professional staff member.
2. Parents may nominate their child by contacting the Principal or student's teacher.
3. Permission to evaluate will be obtained from parents of all nominated students before testing in initiated.

Screening

1. Screening will include the following:
 - A. A standardized test to determine ability such as the NNAT
 - B. A portfolio of at least three activities from Bertie Kingore at Kinder only

Identification

1. Parents and teachers will be asked to complete a checklist of characteristics such as GATES(Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scale).
2. SAGES(Screening Assessment) will be used and possibly the ITBS to determine a subject area strength.
3. This data will be included with the items included in the screening process to form a summary profile of the student. An identification/selection committee composed of the principal and at least two teachers trained in the teaching of the

gifted will review each nominated student's profile and score the students based upon percentage of points earned.

Selection:

The identification/selection committee will review the list and determine the students eligible for program participation. Participation will be determined by the committee. Students scoring according to the established guidelines should qualify - normally the top 7% of the student population.

Parental permission will be obtained for a student to participate in the Gifted and Talented Program.

Parental appeal regarding identification or selection procedures shall be directed to the Principal. If resolution does not occur, parents may appeal to the Superintendent, then the Board in accordance with Board Policy.

Students will be reviewed annually by the Identification/Selection Committee to determine their success in the program. If it is determined that the G/T program is not meeting the educational needs of the student, the student will be reviewed according to furlough or exit procedures.

Entry:

Students may be nominated for screening and identification at any time.

Students who are program participants at the end of the school year are automatically selected for continued program participation.

If a student is eligible for program participation based on his/her screen data but is having difficulty with regular classroom instruction, he/she may enter the G/T Program on probation (at the discretion of the identification/selection committee). Performance will be assessed every three weeks until the decision is made to remove the student from probation or exit the student from the program.

If the parent/guardian of the student selected for program participation does not sign the Parent/Guardian Consent Form, his/her child cannot enter the program at any time during the current school year's program. In which case, all new screening data and selection procedures will be used.

Furloughs:

The district shall permit students participating in the Gifted and Talented Program to be placed on furlough from the program without exiting the program. The student's parent/guardian may request that furlough be granted to a Gifted and Talented student for the following reasons:

- Academic difficulty
- Health reasons
- Personal reasons
- Other academic reasons

The furlough request will be made to the principal and the identification/selection committee. The minimum furlough shall last through the remainder of the current semester.

At the conclusion of the semester the principal shall hold a conference with the parents/guardians to determine if the furlough should continue, the student should return to the gifted and talented program, or be exited from the program. If it is determined that the student should be exited from the program, the exit procedures shall be followed.

Transfer Policies: (Students new to Miller Grove School)

The Selection Committee will accept students new to Miller Grove School who have previously been enrolled in a Gifted Education Program.

Students new to the Miller Grove Independent School District, who have not previously been enrolled in a gifted education program, may be nominated for the program after being in the regular program for at least four weeks. After four weeks, his/her classroom teacher, a parent, or other school personnel may nominate the student. Once nominated, the student will be screened in the same manner as students presently enrolled in Miller Grove School.

Exit Policies:

The parent of a G/T student may request his/her child be withdrawn from the program at any time by signing an Exit Form and this request will be granted. However, parents are encouraged to use the review process so that the best educational program is provided for the student.

If a student enters the G/T program on probation, he/she may be exited from the program by the decision of the Identification/Selection Committee.

If a student is exited from the G/T program for any reason other than moving out of the district, (This does not include furlough), the student may not reenter the program

during the same school year. The student may be nominated for screening for the following year's program. In which case, all new screening data and selection procedures will be used.

A meeting to review a student's progress in G/T may be requested at any time by the student's parent, classroom teacher, G/T teacher, or principal. A meeting to discuss the student's performance will be held and will include the Identification/Selection Committee, the child's teacher, and parent. If a majority of the committee concludes that the program is not meeting the educational needs of the student, the student in question may be placed on a three-week probation or exited from the program. If the student is placed on probation, another conference will be held at the end of the three-week period to determine his/her progress. The results of the committee decision will be documented and the G/T teacher and/or parent will inform the student.

All review requests will be made through the principal.