

Gifted and Talented Education

Mapleton Public Schools (the “District”) is dedicated to providing comprehensive programming for educating students who are identified as gifted and talented, designed to cultivate their talents while challenging them to grow. Gifted and talented students are those students between the ages of four and twenty-one whose abilities, talents, and potential for accomplishment are so exceptional or developmentally advanced that they require special provisions to meet their educational programming needs. The District believes that a quality instructional program that differentiates curriculum and instruction is essential so that all students can learn and grow at their level of potential.

To the extent resources are available for this purpose, the Superintendent (or designee) shall develop and implement programming designed to meet the particular educational needs of gifted and talented students that:

- Encourages acceleration and enrichment beyond the basic curriculum;
- Offers a differentiated curriculum that includes higher cognitive concepts and processes;
- Uses instructional strategies that accommodate the learning styles of the gifted and talented;
- Fosters the individual growth of each student;
- Supports students in the attainment of state and District academic content standards;
- Assists students with pre-collegiate and/or pre-advanced placement programs; and
- Provides guidance support systems, including identifying post-secondary options.

Gifted and talented programming shall include early identification of gifted and talented students who are at least 5 years of age and may include early identification of 4 and 5 year old highly advanced gifted students. The programming shall also include ongoing professional development of staff who administer, supervise, or teach in such programs. The programs will be regularly evaluated to ensure effectiveness.

The Superintendent (or designee) shall submit a program plan to identify and serve gifted and talented students to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) no later than April 30 of each year. The program plan shall contain all of the elements specified by CDE so the District is eligible for state funding for these students.

Except as otherwise required by law, the Superintendent (or designee) shall have the final determination regarding placement of students in District programs for the gifted and

talented.

Adopted October 22, 2013, by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

C.R.S. § 22-20-201 *et seq.* (education of gifted children)

C.R.S. § 22-54-103(10) (allows district to count and receive funding for four and five year old "highly advanced gifted children" enrolled in kindergarten and first grade)

1 CCR 301-8, 2220-R-12.00 (gifted and talented and highly advanced gifted children)