

**Definition** Gifted and Talented children and youth are those of high potential or ability, whose learning characteristics and educational needs require qualitatively differentiated educational experiences and/or services. Possession of these talents and gifts, or the potential for their development, will be evidenced through an interaction of above average intellectual ability, task commitment and/or motivation, and creative

**Philosophy** The Little Rock School District is committed to providing quality, equitable educational programs for students with a potential for giftedness. The gifted programs are designed to challenge these students who have unique needs, abilities, and talents through a variety of learning approaches, including enrichment, qualitatively differentiated curricula, and acceleration.

**Equity** The Little Rock School District is committed to each child having an opportunity to participate in the Gifted and Talented Program regardless of race, color, creed, socio-economic level, or handicapping condition. This commitment is guaranteed through equitable procedures for assessing gifted potential, program designs that are flexible and varied enough to be adaptable to individual student needs, and through curricula designed to nurture gifted potential.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF GIFTED STUDENTS

- Has vocabulary or knowledge in a specific area that is unusually advanced for age or grade.
- Grasps concepts quickly, easily, without much repetition.
- Bored with routine tasks and may refuse to do rote homework.
- Recognizes relationships and comprehends meanings; May make jokes or puns at inappropriate times.
- Has unusual insight into values and relationships; May perceive injustices and assertively oppose them.
- Asks more provocative questions about the causes and reasons for things; May refuse to accept authority and be non-conforming.
- Evaluates facts, arguments, and persons critically; May be self-critical, impatient or critical of self and others, including the teacher.
- Enthusiastically generates ideas or solutions to problems and questions; May dominate others because of abilities.
- Have intense, often diverse, self-directed interests; May be difficult to get involved in topics he/she is not interested in.
- Produces many and varied solutions to problems.
- Flexible; Has high tolerance of disorder or ambiguity; May be impatient with details or restrictions.
- Capacity for task commitment in areas of interest; May resist working on projects he / she is not interested in; Bored with routine or repetitive tasks.
- Uses imagination- may be considered wild or silly.



**LITTLE ROCK**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

## K-12 Gifted and Talented and Advanced Placement Programs



**"Empowering Great Minds to Exceed Expectations"**

### LRS D Gifted Programs Office

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## Identification Process

**NOMINATION-** Students are referred to the School-Based Committee for assessment. A referral form is completed for EACH student referred by the nominator. Anyone may nominate a student for gifted program services.

**ASSESSMENT-** Once a student is nominated for services, objective and subjective data is collected for each student referred. The data is plotted on a Student Identification Profile.

**SELECTION- Phase I:** The school-based Committee (SBC) reviews each profile as part of a blind screening process and makes a placement recommendation based upon the data collected.

**Phase II:** The LRSD Standards Committee reviews and verifies the recommendations of the School-Based Committee. The Standards Committee may approve, deny, or request more data before a placement decision is approved.

**Phase III:** A written notification is sent regarding the final placement decision. If the parent /guardian disagrees with the placement decision, an appeal may be submitted to the school based committee.

**Programming-** Identified students are provided 150 minutes of service per week. The delivery of these services may occur through the pull-out program, GT Seminar, GT Classes, Pre-AP and AP courses, or a combination of program options.

**Grades K-1:** All students in the LRSD are engaged in weekly enrichment lessons and activities provided by trained GT Specialists. GT Specialists exclusively deliver lessons and are trained to “talent spot,” observing students in the classroom, documenting observed GT characteristics, individual student responses, collecting student work samples, maintaining portfolios, and passing student data to the teacher in the next grade.

**Grades 2-5:** Identified students attend G/T classes each week. Special emphasis is placed upon higher order thinking, decision making, problem solving, forecasting, planning, research, and communication skills within these classes.

**Grades 6-8:** Identified students may enroll in one or more GT subject classes, GT Seminar, and/or Pre-AP coursework. Teachers at the middle school level have had special training to teach these classes.

### Other Program Options/Extracurricular-

Chess, Destination Imagination, Quiz Bowl, SPARK Summer GT Academy, and a variety of special program opportunities are provided throughout the school year.



## Programming Continued-

**Grades 9-12:** At the senior high level, students are placed in a choice of upper-level courses according to interests and abilities. Options available are Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) and Advanced Placement \*(AP) classes. Other options for students may include seminars, mentorships, concurrent credit, or independent study.

**\*Advanced Placement Courses** are offered under the auspices of The College Board AP Program. **The AP Program is inclusive and open to all students.** Any 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade student with the desire for a more demanding curriculum, who is willing to devote more time and energy to the course work, is a good candidate for AP. AP courses are more challenging than most high school classes. AP classes expose high school students to college-level curriculum. At the culmination of the AP class, students are given the opportunity to show they have mastered the advanced coursework by taking AP Exams. Most institutions of higher education award hours of college credit for AP exam scores of three or better.

For more information about the LRSD Gifted Program, visit our program link on the LRSD webpage: [www.lrsd.org](http://www.lrsd.org).