

Gifted Program Mission Statement

The mission of Maumee City Schools GATE (Gifted and Talented Education Program) is to:

- Facilitate the development of the gifted child by addressing his/her unique needs academically, socially and emotionally.
- Enhance the academic achievement and motivation of gifted students by engaging them in an academically enriched and accelerated curriculum structured to meet their needs.
- Give the gifted students the necessary tools to help them understand and use effective problem solving and decision-making strategies to prepare them for a meaningful participation in future endeavors and a global society.
- Allow them the opportunity to interact and learn from their academically and socially similar peers.

What Happens in GATE?

Qualifying third grade students are invited to participate in GATE. These students spend one full day per week in the GATE class. A teacher certified in gifted education provides instruction. The curriculum is based on current educational research and aligned with Ohio's New Learning Standards. It is also designed to include advanced problem solving, research, product design, projects requiring creativity, individual, and group work. Field trips and investigations into subject areas not covered in the regular classroom are designed to enhance the school experience.

Where is GATE Held?

The 3rd grade GATE classes are held at Fort Miami Elementary School and meet every Wednesday throughout the school year. Students who are from Fairfield Elementary are transported by school bus to Fort Miami. Location within the buildings may change year-to-year depending on enrollment and space availability.

After arriving at their home building, the students will check in with their homeroom teacher. Then, students are transported by school bus to Fort Miami. At the end of the day, students are transported back to their home school and will then be dismissed. Board policy states that GATE students are not required to complete regular classroom homework that they have missed while at their GATE class. If there is a problem, please discuss it with the regular classroom teacher.

Does my child have to participate?

The final decision to permit participation rests with the parent and is a voluntary decision. A *Permission to Participate* form is signed and returned to the gifted teacher, allowing student participation. Students are expected to complete the full year in GATE once commitment has been made. If an emergency arises or the teacher and parent feel it is not in the best interest of the student to continue, withdrawal procedures can be initiated.

The law limits space in the program. The maximum number of students in the GATE classroom at one time is 15 students.

Qualifications for the G.A.T.E. Program

An intense screening process is employed to identify those children eligible to receive gifted services. The State of Ohio and House Bill 282 have set the criteria for gifted identification. Initial eligibility for GATE is determined by: Ohio Administrative Code regarding the identification of gifted & talented students in the "Superior Cognitive" category. Students can meet this eligibility requirement if, within the past 24 months, the student has met one of the following:

- Scored a 128+ composite score on the CogAT group cognitive abilities test (Grade 2)
- Scored a 95%+ composite score on the IOWA. (Grades 5 and 7)
- Scored a 126+ composite score on the OLSAT cognitive abilities test (individual)
- Had a Cognitive ability (composite) score of two standard deviations above the mean on a state approved test of cognitive ability.

Recommendations for testing includes standardized testing results given to whole grade groups or referrals from parents/guardians, administrators, teachers or other related professionals. Referral forms for the program are located in the main office of each building or online at www.maumee.k12.oh.us

Does my child need to requalify each year?

Students do not need to re-qualify for the program on a yearly basis. Once the student is invited, he/she will continue in the program unless the teacher and parent recommend a modification.

Students who have been tested and have not been selected for participation may be considered to be retested twice a year as stated by Ohio Law.

How Is My Child Evaluated in G.A.T.E.?

Students will learn to evaluate themselves on their effort and quality of each project completed in GATE class. The GATE teacher will also evaluate students on these same projects as well as quarterly progress reports designed for GATE. Projects and activities are aligned to Ohio's New Learning Standards. Students are also evaluated on using critical, creative and logical thinking within the core subject areas. Parent Teacher Conferences will also be scheduled for GATE students. Conferences coincide with the district's parent/teacher conference schedule.

Withdrawing:

Parents may withdraw their student from GATE at any time. The procedure entails meeting with the K-8 gifted coordinator and completing a form stating the reason(s) for withdrawal. If a student is withdrawn, future gifted services would depend upon the class size and state enrollment cap rules.



How can I get further information about the GATE Program?

Further information regarding the GATE program is available by contacting one of the following:

Mrs. Danielle Pickle

Universal Design for Learning Coach
Gifted Teacher
Fort Miami Elementary
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ESC of Lake Erie West

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Maumee City Schools 3rd Grade Gifted Services

GATE What is it?



Gifted And Talented Education

