

Gifted Program Mission Statement

The mission of Maumee City Schools Gifted Services 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 the Gifted Services Program?

Qualifying 3rd grade students are invited to participate in the Gifted Services Program. Students who participate within this 3rd grade program will receive daily Reading/Language Arts specialized instruction to meet each gifted student's academic needs. The Gifted Services teams of teachers at each elementary are trained in gifted education in collaboration with gifted intervention specialists, Mrs. Danielle Pickle (Fort Miami) and Mrs. Gail Salmon (Fairfield), providing instruction for the students.

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, and projects requiring creativity, individual, and group work. Students participating within the Gifted Services Program, while mixed with the general population in other classes, may receive enrichment, differentiated instruction and assessments in other academic areas as determined by the area of identified strength.

Homework and student product expectations are set by individual teachers and gifted intervention specialists and are appropriate with the ability level of the students.

Where are Gifted Services Held?

The 3rd grade Gifted Services classes are held at both Fairfield and Fort Miami Elementary and meet daily for English/Language Arts instruction throughout the school year.

Does my child have to participate?

The final decision to permit participation rests with the parent and is a voluntary decision. Students are expected to complete the full year within the Gifted Services Program 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.

Recommendations for Testing

Recommendations for testing include standardized testing results given to the whole grade groups, 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.

Qualifications for the Gifted Services 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 Gifted Services 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:

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

Students demonstrating "advanced learning potential" may be placed into the Gifted Services, determined by the Gifted Coordinator as long as the enrollment cap is not surpassed.

These students will be permitted to continue if there is no demand on the class by newly gifted identified students. *Ohio Administrative Code mandates that gifted identified students be provided service ahead of academically strong, but non-identified students.*

Does my child need to re-qualify each year?

Gifted identified 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 invited to participate who are non-identified, however exhibit “advanced learning potential,” will be permitted to continue if there is no demand on the class by newly gifted identified students.

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

How Is My Child Evaluated in Gifted Services Program?

Students will learn to evaluate themselves on their effort and quality of work completed in the class. The gifted services teachers will also evaluate students using Ohio’s New Learning Standards as well. 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 English/Language Arts subject area.

Withdrawing:

Parents may withdraw their student from a gifted service class at any time. The procedure entails meeting with the K-12 Gifted Coordinator, Mrs. Danielle Pickle, in addition to completing a form stating the reason(s) for withdrawal. If a student were withdrawn, future gifted services would depend upon the class size and state mandated gifted rules.

Maumee City Schools

3rd Grade Gifted Services



How can I get further information about Gifted Services in Maumee?

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

Gail Salmon

Gifted Intervention Specialist
Fairfield Elementary
419-893-9821
gsalmon@maumeeek12.org

Danielle Pickle

Gifted Coordinator
Fort Miami Elementary
419-893-2201
dpickle@maumeeek12.org
ESC of Lake Erie West

Michelle Shafer

Director of Teaching and Learning
716 Askin St., Maumee, OH 43537
419-893-3200
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Brenda Gift, Ed. S.

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