

## **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 within the Gifted Services Program?**

Qualifying 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to participate in the Gifted Services Program. These students receive daily Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics specialized instruction to meet each gifted student's academic needs. The Gifted Services teams of teachers at each grade level are certified in gifted education in collaboration with Mrs. Gail Salmon, Gifted Intervention Specialist, provides 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 the gifted intervention specialist and are appropriate with the ability level of the students.

### **Where is the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Gifted Services Program Held?**

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Gifted Services classes are held at Wayne Trail Elementary School and meet daily 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 includes 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](http://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 the Gifted Services Program 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 Program classes, determined by the Gifted Coordinator as long as there are spaces available.

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?**

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 within the Gifted Services Program?**

Students will learn to evaluate themselves on their effort and quality of each project completed in the Gifted Services Program. The Program teachers will also evaluate students on these same projects as well as Ohio’s New Learning Standards. 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.

### ***Withdrawing***

Parents may withdraw their student from the Gifted Services Program 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 rules.

## ***Maumee City Schools***

### ***4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Gifted Services***



**MAUMEE CITY SCHOOLS**

### ***How can I get further information about the Gifted Services Program?***

Further information regarding the Gifted Services Program is available by contacting one of the following:

#### **Mrs. Gail Salmon**

Gifted Intervention Specialist  
1147 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Maumee, OH 43537  
419-893-2851  
gsalmon@maumee12.org

#### **Mrs. Danielle Pickle**

Gifted Coordinator  
2501 River Road, Maumee, OH. 43537  
419-893-2201  
dpickle@maumee12.org  
ESC of Lake Erie West

#### **Mrs. Michelle Shafer**

Director of Teaching and Learning  
716 Askin St., Maumee, OH 43537  
419-893-3200  
mshafer@maumee12.org

#### **Brenda Gift, Ed. S.**

Director of Educational Services  
ESC of Lake Erie West  
419-246-3120  
bgift@eslakeeriewest.org



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