

# GT Program Services

## Grades K-2

- ◆ Whole class enrichment for 30 minutes a week on selected areas of interest.

## Grades 3-6

- ◆ Pull-out program for identified students. Classes meet for 150 minutes per week.

## Grades 7-8

- ◆ Competitive Edge class meets daily as scheduled class.

## Grades 9-12

- ◆ Students are served through Pre-AP and AP classes in all four content areas.

## Characteristics of Gifted

- ◆ Thrives on complexity
- ◆ Keenly observant
- ◆ Highly self-critical
- ◆ Initiates projects
- ◆ 1-2 repetitions for mastery
- ◆ Asks the questions
- ◆ Is highly curious
- ◆ Discusses in detail, elaborates
- ◆ Plays around, yet tests well
- ◆ Shows strong feelings and opinions
- ◆ Draws inferences
- ◆ Creative
- ◆ Displays a keen sense of humor
- ◆ Sets own high standards
- ◆ Enjoys learning
- ◆ Beyond the group
- ◆ Early or avid reader
- ◆ Tends to be a perfectionist

### GT Contact Information

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# Farmington Public Schools Gifted and Talented Program



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Farmington School District  
Farmington, AR.

## PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The programs in the Farmington Public Schools are built on a fundamental belief in serving the needs of all our students as unique individuals. We believe that gifted and talented individuals have special characteristics and learning styles and that their potential for accomplishment is such that they require special provisions, experiences, and services not provided for in the regular instructional program. The district is committed to providing a program for identifying and meeting the needs and interests of our gifted students. The purpose of the gifted and talented program is to fully develop their individual potential and abilities. It is also designed to cultivate within the student a desire for excellence and a sense of productive responsibility to self, family, school, community, and society. Maximizing the potential of the gifted and talented students requires a commitment of school, home, and community.

## Arkansas Definition of Giftedness

Gifted and talented children and youth are those of high potential or ability whose learning characteristics and educational needs require qualitatively differentiated educational experiences 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 ability.

## IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

The identification process of students consists of three steps: nomination, screening, and selection.

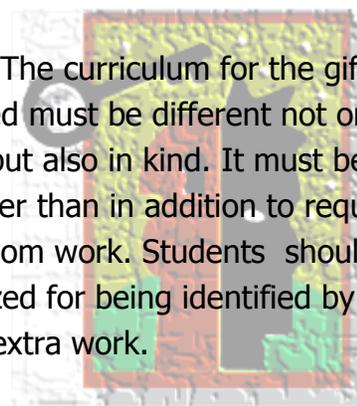
**Nomination** - Students may be recommended by teachers, parents, community members, and students (peer or self). They may also be referred on the basis of previous participation in another GT program. (No student is automatically placed in the Farmington GT program based upon placement in prior school.

**Screening** - The screening process consists of collecting and compiling data on nominated students to facilitate decision making for the selection of students who are most in need of GT services. Both objective and subjective instruments are used in the process and no measure single-handedly leads to placement. All information is compiled and presented to a school-based identification committee. Student is screened when permission from parent is received.

**Selection** - The identification committee considers each student and makes recommendations based on collected data. No single criteria or cut-off score is used to include or exclude a student from being placed in the program. The decision must consider the student as an individual in accordance with his or her needs. Letters are sent to parents indicating placement decisions. Letters are sent to parents indicating placement decisions. The parents and recommended student make the final decision regarding participation in the GT program. Students not placed will remain in the talent pool.

Identification is an ongoing process. Nominations are considered throughout the school year. Students moving in from other districts/states who were in GT will not be automatically placed in the GT program. They will be reevaluated using the placement criteria of the Farmington GT program. All students placed in the program are reviewed annually for continued placement.

## About Curriculum



The curriculum for the gifted and talented must be different not only in degree, but also in kind. It must be in place of rather than in addition to required classroom work. Students should not be penalized for being identified by being given extra work.

## EXIT PROCEDURE

On occasion, situations may arise when placement in the GT program no longer seems to be in the best interest of the student. As with determining placement, multiple criteria will be used in deciding if the exiting program is in the best interest of meeting the needs of the student. The exit procedure will proceed in the following manner:

- If student or parent initiates, the party will contact the GT teacher to set up a conference to discuss the reasoning behind the suggestion.
- If the exit is initiated by the GT teacher, they will meet with the identification committee.
- A conference will be held in an effort to clarify reasons for the request and determine how to best proceed. Parents, student, GT and classroom teachers, etc. may be involved.
- Action plan will be developed and timeline set. This will be in writing and signed by involved parties.
- All pertinent data will be compiled and presented to the identification committee. They will review the data and make a decision about how to meet the best interests of the student.
- Parents will be notified of the decision and asked to sign a program exit form. Parents may appeal the exit decision.