

Maricopa Unified School District

Board Policy

Instruction

Gifted And Talented Student Program

BP 6172

The Governing Board believes that all students deserve an education that challenges them to reach their full potential. The district may operate and provide gifted and talented students with opportunities for learning commensurate with their particular abilities and talents.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)
(cf. 6000 - Concepts and Roles)

The Superintendent or designee will identify students for the district's gifted and talented education (GATE) program on the basis of demonstrated or potential intellectual development, creative ability, consistently high achievement levels, academic ability in particular subject area(s), leadership ability, and/or performing and visual arts talent.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide all eligible students, including economically disadvantaged students, English learners, and students of varying cultural backgrounds, with full opportunities to participate in the GATE program and shall provide special counseling or services as necessary to help such students to succeed in the program.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

The district's GATE program will be designed to provide articulated learning experiences across subjects and grade levels and shall meet or exceed state academic content standards and curriculum frameworks.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)
(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)
(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)
(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)
(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)
(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

Educational opportunities in the district's GATE program may include:

1. Special day classes which are designed to meet specific academic needs of gifted and talented students and are appropriately differentiated from other classes in the same subjects at the school
2. Part-time groupings, in which students attend classes or seminars that are organized to provide advanced or enriched subject matter for a part of the school day
3. Cluster groupings, in which students are grouped within a regular classroom setting and receive appropriately differentiated activities from the regular classroom teacher
4. Independent study supervised by a certificated district employee and offered through special tutors or mentors or through enrollment in correspondence courses pursuant to Education Code 51740 and 5 CCR 1633

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

5. Acceleration, in which students are placed in grade levels or classes more advanced than those of their chronological age group and are provided special counseling and/or instruction outside the regular classroom in order to facilitate their advanced work

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

6. Opportunities to attend classes conducted by a college or community college

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

7. Advanced Placement classes, International Baccalaureate program, or honors classes

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

8. Supplemental educational activities which augment students' regular educational programs in their regular classrooms and may include the use of advanced materials and/or provide special opportunities from persons other than the regular classroom teacher

In addition, the district's program shall support the social and emotional development of GATE students in order to promote student engagement in school.

(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

Staff development shall be provided as needed to support teachers in understanding the unique learning styles and abilities of gifted and talented students and in developing appropriate instructional strategies.

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee may involve certificated staff, students, parents/guardians, and community members in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the GATE program.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the progress of students enrolled in the district's GATE program. Reports may include, but are not limited to, student achievement test results, school attendance, and feedback from program staff and participants.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)
(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)
(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37223 Weekend classes for mentally gifted minors
48800-48802 Enrollment of gifted students in community college
51740 Instruction by correspondence
51745-51749.3 Independent study programs
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan
76000-76002 Enrollment in community college

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1633 Instruction by correspondence

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Association for the Gifted: <http://www.cagifted.org>

Council for Exceptional Children, The Association for the Gifted (CEC-TAG):

<http://www.cectag.org>

National Association for Gifted Children: <http://www.nagc.org>

MUSD Board Adopted: 4/20/06

Reviewed/Revised: 4/14/16

Maricopa Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

Instruction

Gifted And Talented Student Program

AR 6172

Program Coordinator

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a district coordinator who has demonstrated experience and knowledge in gifted education to oversee implementation of the district's gifted and talented education (GATE) program, including student identification procedures, recordkeeping, and other duties as assigned.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee also may appoint, for each school site, a GATE coordinator who shall be responsible for implementation of program services at that school site.

Identification of Gifted and Talented Students

Students may be recommended for the GATE program by administrators, teachers, counselors, other staff, or parents/guardians. Parent/guardian consent shall be obtained before administering any assessments for the sole purpose of identifying students for this program or for placing a student in the program.

The Superintendent or designee will select students for the program based on their demonstrated or potential ability for high performance in categories identified by the Governing Board, as evidenced by any of the following indicators:

1. School, class, and individual student records
2. Individual tests, including summary and evaluation by a credentialed school psychologist
3. Group tests
4. Interviews and questionnaires of teachers, parents/guardians, and others
5. Student portfolios
6. Opinions of professional persons

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

The Superintendent or designee shall base selection decisions upon the evaluation of pertinent evidence by the principal or designee, a classroom teacher familiar with the student's work, and, when appropriate, a credentialed school psychologist and/or other expert. These persons may review screening, identification, and placement data and shall meet when necessary to resolve any differences in assessment and recommendations. In reviewing evidence of a student's abilities, the Superintendent or designee also shall consider the economic, linguistic, and cultural characteristics of the student's background.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

A student who transfers into the district shall be considered for the GATE program if he/she was identified as a gifted and talented student in his/her previous district or school or is recommended for the program. The Superintendent or designee may verify that the GATE program would be an appropriate placement for the student by examining evidence of the student's abilities based on any of the indicators listed above.

Because students who do not initially meet district criteria for the GATE program may become eligible at a later grade level, the district may re-examine student eligibility whenever the district receives a referral or the Superintendent or designee determines it to be in the student's best interest.

(11/05 7/08) 8/14
MUSD Board Adopted: 4/14/16