Frequently Asked Questions, OLSD Gifted Services

Gifted Identification

What are the qualifications for gifted identification?
The state of Ohio sets the criteria for gifted identification. Students are identified as gifted with:

- An ability score of 128 or above on the Inview assessment,  
  OR
- A percentile of 95 or above on the reading, math, science, and/or social studies portions of the Terra Nova assessment.

What does gifted identification mean?
Olentangy is proud to have many students who receive at least one qualifying national test score. Recent scores are communicated to your child's classroom teacher in order to help the teacher make appropriate instructional decisions and maximize your child's learning. All identified gifted students receive instruction in the classroom from their classroom teacher with support from the Gifted Intervention Specialist (GIS). The GIS works behind the scenes with the classroom teacher to provide materials and resources for differentiating subject matter for students. Your child will be receiving differentiated instruction from the classroom teacher on an as needed basis, as demonstrated by his/her classroom performance. Please be aware that supports will look different from year to year as your child advances through grade levels and academic needs progress.

Does my child have to receive a qualifying score each year in order to remain identified?
Once your child has received a qualifying score in a subject area and is identified as gifted, they are always identified in that subject area.

When are the assessments given?
Whole grade assessments in all subjects are completed in the spring of 2nd, 3rd, and 6th grades. Students in grades 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th grades complete whole grade assessments in limited subject areas. Parents and teachers may refer students for additional gifted assessment opportunities and potential identification.

Direct Gifted Service

How do students qualify for direct gifted services?
Not all gifted students qualify for direct gifted services. Direct services are provided to students who demonstrate the highest level of academic and cognitive need. In Olentangy, students qualify for direct gifted services with both:

- A cognitive skills index score of 128 or above on the Inview,  
  AND
- A percentile of 95 or above on the reading and/or math portion of the Terra Nova
What do direct gifted services look like?
The purpose of gifted programming is to enhance cognitive, content, research and communication skills by providing challenging opportunities through a differentiated curriculum. Direct gifted services are delivered to students in Reading and Math. In addition to the supports provided to all students with gifted identification, the GIS will work directly with your child in their qualifying subject area(s) to support their academic needs. This may include, but is not limited to, direct instruction in the gifted resource room or the regular classroom. The GIS will provide a variety of instructional extensions in various settings to help maximize your child's learning. Please be aware that services will look different from year to year as your child advances through grade levels.

When will any new direct gifted services begin?
Any new areas of gifted services will start at the beginning of next school year. Previous areas of direct gifted services will continue without interruption.

Are there any gifted services at the high school level?
Gifted services at the high school are delivered through course selection. Olentangy offers many honors and elective courses to challenge students academically and meet areas of interest. We also offer 21 AP courses, dual enrollment, and PSEO options for students to potentially earn early college credits. Students may also pursue mentorship programs to gain hands on career experience outside the classroom.

Where can I find more information about OLSD gifted services?
You may visit the district website at:
http://www.olentangy.k12.oh.us/Page/1363

You may also contact the gifted specialist at your child’s building for specific information about how direct gifted services will be delivered.