

## GIFTED EDUCATION SERVICE MODEL

The Forest Hills School District Board of Education believes that all children are entitled to an education commensurate with their particular needs. Children who are gifted in the district may need special services beyond those offered in regular school programs in order to realize their innate strengths/abilities and potential contribution to themselves and society.

Forest Hills School District follows the identification eligibility criteria as specified in Section 3324.01.07 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students.

### AREAS OF IDENTIFICATION

The state identifies gifted students in grades K-12 in accordance with the following guidelines in the following areas:

- ◆ **Superior Cognitive Ability**  
Performance level at least two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement on a state approved standardized intelligence test. (127-128 CogAT, 127 WISC-V, 128 InView)
- ◆ **Specific Academic Ability**  
Performance level at the 95th percentile at the national level on a state approved standardized achievement test in one or more of the following content areas:
 

|             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| Mathematics | Reading        |
| Science     | Social Studies |
- ◆ **Creative Thinking Ability**  
Exhibit sufficient performance on an approved checklist of creative behaviors and ability test and score one standard deviation above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on a state approved individual or group intelligence test.
- ◆ **Visual or Performing Arts**  
Demonstrate ability through an audition, display work of superior ability, or exhibit exceptional performance on a checklist of behaviors related to a specific arts area.

---

### Written Education Plans

Students who are identified as gifted will have a Written Education Plan (*WEP*) that includes learning goals. Goals are based on the District curriculum, *ELO (Extended Learning Opportunities)*, Plus units and projects, as well as student needs and interests. Parents will receive a copy of their student's *WEP* in the fall and a report card each grading period indicating academic performance.

### Withdrawal Policy for ELO

Students wishing to withdraw from the program must submit a written request from a parent to the building Gifted Intervention Specialist. Withdrawals are valid for one school year and students will become eligible for *ELO* the following year. Students who are enrolled in an advanced mathematics course will miss content during the year they withdraw.

## For Children With Specific Academic Ability ID's

The classroom teacher is the primary provider of many of the educational experiences for identified gifted children. Teachers are informed annually of students' identification areas and whenever possible and/or appropriate, adapt the curriculum to suit the needs of individual students. School personnel work with classroom teachers to plan appropriate educational experiences for all children in language arts, science, social studies, and creative thinking. Additionally, special area teachers provide enriching educational experiences in the areas of visual arts and performing arts.

Based upon the student's ability, need, interest, and task commitment, district services may be provided in any of the following ways in accordance with Ohio Revised Code:

- Accelerated coursework
- Advanced Placement
- Cluster groups
- Curriculum compacting
- Early entrance to kindergarten
- Flexible groups
- Grade acceleration
- Single-subject acceleration
- Independent study and research
- Mentorships
- Online courses
- Post secondary enrollment options
- Early graduation
- Replacement or extension of the regular curriculum
- Resource room
- Team teaching
- Total class or school wide enrichment experiences

## Gifted Services in Forest Hills

### Grades K—3

ELO teachers will consult with classroom teachers for students identified as gifted on an as needed basis.

### Grades 4—6 “Math Plus”

A daily advanced math class including interdisciplinary units connecting math curriculum to language arts, social studies, and science content. Math Plus is designed for students meeting the following criteria:

Identified as superior cognitive on a state-approved standardized intelligence test.

**OR**

Cognitive ability score of 120 or above **and** a math achievement composite score in the 95th percentile or above on the most recently administered nationally normed state-approved test.

### Grades 7—8

Students identified as superior cognitive through an approved ability measure or identified as gifted in the specific academic areas of reading or math through a nationally normed state-approved test will be served through classroom teachers. Algebra and/or Geometry is offered for high school credit.

### Grades 9—12

Advanced Placement coursework.

## QUESTIONS

**Debra Smith**  
**District Gifted Coordinator**

**Email: [debrasmith@foresthills.edu](mailto:debrasmith@foresthills.edu)**

**Bob Buck**

**Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning**

**Email: [bobbuck@foresthills.edu](mailto:bobbuck@foresthills.edu)**

**Phone: 231.3600 ext. 2956**

