

RRISD Policies and Procedures for Gifted and Talented Students

River Road ISD shall institute policies and procedures in compliance with the Texas Education Code, the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted and Talented Students, and according to the specialized condition of this school district. This program is developed by the District Selection Committee in association with District Administration and approval of the Board of Trustees.

District Selection Committee

According to the State Plan, the committee will consist of no fewer than three members who each have a minimum of 30 hours delineated G/T training and who receive 6 hours yearly update. Elementary, Intermediate and Secondary schools shall be represented. District administration, local principals, and the district coordinator will determine members by consensus. The committee will discuss, review and recommend changes in policy and procedures. Committee will meet no less than 3 times per school year based upon the requirements by the state. The meetings will be to review requests and testing for those that have been nominated for G/T services, review policy and procedures, and to make decisions about the program itself. Each committee member will collect certificates of training from the local campus coordinator. Committee members will also see that campus teachers get training in the 30 hours of G/T training in one semester's time. Members will also serve as a liaison to campus Principals on policy and procedures.

Local Campus Coordinators

Each campus shall have a minimum of one designated coordinator who has 30 hours of delineated training and 6 hours yearly update training or equivalent. The District Committee will make recommendations, but the local building administration shall be a part of the decision making process. The campus coordinator will oversee G/T services, collect certification of core campus teachers, assist with communication with parents concerning their students, and will assist any other campus personnel with the instruction of G/T students. All certificates will be turned in to the district selection committee person for that campus with a list of who needs to get trained.

District Coordinator

The District Coordinator will have a minimum of 30 hours of delineated training and 6 hours yearly update or equivalent. The District Coordinator will organize, schedule and serve on the district selection committee. The coordinator will also maintain records for training of personnel, and will serve as the contact for Local Campus Coordinators.

Identification Process

Each Campus Coordinator will inform parents, students and teachers of the nomination process. Students may be nominated by teachers, parents, counselors or self-nomination. Nominations shall be turned in and given to the counselor which will administer the SOI and Gates assessment. Assessments are available in English and Spanish for use with students in their native tongue. All assessments will be

sent to the SOI Company to be scored. The District Selection Committee will review the test results and alert the parents of whether or not their student qualifies for G/T services. In order to qualify for services a student must show academic strength and one other criterion from creativity, leadership, performing arts or general intellect. Students that do not qualify for the program may be tested again but this is limited to once in grades 1-5, once in grades 6-8 and once in high school.

Transfers, Exiting, and Furlough

If a student comes into the district who has qualified as G/T the District Committee will review the students previous testing and make a decision on whether or not that student qualifies in our G/T program. If testing is not available the student shall go through the identification process as stated previously. Students may be put on a furlough if they are unable to participate in the G/T program due to failing grades, or lack of cooperation in the G/T program. After they have been out for a semester and cannot be a part of the program they will be exited through district selection committee. Parents of students may also request that a student be exited from the G/T program.

Program Options

Each student in the program will be assigned to a local campus coordinator who has the required training. Each student will have daily access to this person. Programs will vary upon age and student needs. Challenging learning experiences shall be provided in the 4 core subject areas through differentiation in the classroom. Learning experiences shall be provided by the local coordinator that will lead to the development of advanced level products or performances such as those found in the Texas Performance Standards Projects. Opportunities for acceleration in areas of student strengths shall be provided through UIL, Art club, Student Leadership, and mentorship. Students in the program have the opportunity to work together as a group, work with other students in the classroom, and independently throughout the school year.

Yearly Timeline

September-

- Local Coordinators collect 30 hour training certificates for core teachers that are servicing our students and turn in a list of names of those teachers that need staff development.
- Policy Reviews and Transfer student evaluations through Committee

October-November-

- Nominations
- Evaluations for Testing
- Testing

January- Committee Reviews

March- Kindergarten Nominations, Evaluations and Testing

April- Committee Reviews and Program Evaluation

