

Farragut Community School District Talented and Gifted Program

Program Overview and Criteria for Program Inclusion

The Farragut Talented and Gifted Program is designed to serve those students that show outstanding ability in the areas of creative thinking, specific academic ability and/or overall academic ability. The procedure for identifying intellectually gifted students at Farragut School District will be a multi-step process that involves classroom teachers, the Talented and Gifted Coordinator and the parents.

Step 1: Nomination

A student must be nominated for consideration in TAG program.

- Nomination by a teacher
- Nomination by an administrator
- Nomination by the TAG personnel
- Nomination by the parent/student

Step 2: Evaluation

Two of the following criteria must be met and the committee's recommendation:

- 90th percentile on a cognitive assessment
- 90% on the most recent Iowa Test of Basic Skills or Iowa Test of Educational Development using Iowa norms any of the following categories: Total Reading, Comprehension, Total Math, Science or Social Studies.
- Stanine 8 or above or the advanced category for any Curriculum Based Measurement such as DIBELS, GATES, Stanford9 or any other achievement measures used by the school.
- A grade point average of 3.5 or higher
- Teacher recommendation based on Renzulli's Scales for Rating the Behavioral Characteristics of Superior Students.
- Student Products or Performance at an advanced level

Step 3: Plan (if numerical evidence)

- 1) Student plan is written and evaluated annually by the TAG Committee, or as needed, to determine need to exit or need to continue in the program. Parents have the right to appeal decisions.

Philosophy of Gifted Educational Programs:

In our society, education is generally accepted as the vehicle to advance each individual to reach his/her fullest potential. The needs, interests, and readiness of high ability students require specific educational consideration.

A predominant objective of a program for the high ability student is to motivate them with a desire for excellence and life-long learning. Educational programs for these students should provide extensions of learning which allow for exploration, experiences, and expression beyond regular classroom curriculum. Researchers generally agreed that content and activities for high ability students should be both horizontally and vertically differentiated.

While all students should be expected to show mastery of basic skills and knowledge, the total program for high ability learners should include and encourage opportunities directed toward the student's unique cognitive, creative, affective needs and interests.

It should be noted that the generally accepted educational structure is not necessarily the best approach for high ability learners and in many cases can be detrimental. Non-graded and accelerative approaches as well as opportunities for in-depth study are considered appropriate and necessary to meet the needs of high ability learners.

All programs for gifted learner's should be planned and directed by individuals trained in the area of gifted education with adequate training and support provided for other educator and support personnel assigned to work with high ability learners.

Goals and Strategies:

Goal 1:

The Farragut School District will provide appropriate, differentiated cognitive and affective opportunities for student growth and learning for those students served in the TAG program.

- Promote the use of critical, creative thinking skills.
- Encourage independent learning and research skills.
- Develop an understanding of systems, themes, issues, and problems that occur in our world.
- Promote positive attitudes and habits which encourage task commitment, inquiry, and a love of learning.

Goal 2:

The Farragut School District will provide opportunities for the articulation of the Talented and Gifted Program within the total school community/curriculum.

- Provide opportunities for growth and integration of learning opportunities into the total school program.
- Provide opportunities to infuse community resources, field trips, competitions, and conferences into the Talented and Gifted curriculum.

Goal 3:

The Farragut School district will encourage and support a comprehensive system of program management and administration for the Talented and Gifted Program.

- Develop an ongoing professional development plan for teachers and administrators.
- Provide time, space and resources needed for articulation with the regular educational program.
- Provide multifaceted means for student identification.
- Provide means of program evaluation.
- Define expectations and qualifications for the program coordinator.
- Provide an ongoing progress for all program participants.

Farragut Talented and Gifted Program
Referral Form

Dear _____:

I would like your permission to assess _____ for possible placement in the Farragut Talented and Gifted Program. The assessments to be given will help determine your child's cognitive and creative potential. Final inclusion in the Talented and Gifted Program is based on test results, teacher observations and academic performance.

When all assessments are completed, you will be notified of these results. All assessment results are confidential.

Please return the attached form to me as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at school.

Sincerely,

I hereby give permission for my child, _____ to be assessed for the purpose of determining possible placement in the Talented and Gifted Program.

Parent or Guardian _____

Date _____

Farragut Talented and Gifted Program

Authorization Form

I understand that my child has been assessed and evaluated for inclusion into the Farragut Talented and Gifted Program. I further understand that the results of assessment were used to partially determine eligibility for the program. All scores are confidential.

As parent or legal guardian of _____, I understand that final placement into the Talented and Gifted Program will be my decision and, at any time, I may withdraw my child from the program. I also know that the TAG facilitator, classroom teacher or administration can ask for a review to reevaluate placement. If this occurs, the parents or guardian will be notified prior to any permanent program change.

I give my permission for _____ to participate in the Farragut Talented and Gifted Program.

Parent or Guardian

Date

Farragut Talented and Gifted Program

Student _____

Grade _____

Teacher _____

Date _____

Listed below are some of the characteristics exhibited by potentially talented and gifted students. Since talented and gifted pupils differ considerably, not all will exhibit these characteristics to the same degree. Read each item and indicate in the column to the right the degree to which you have observed each characteristic in comparison with children of the same age.

	Seldom	Sometimes	Often
1. Uses a larger vocabulary			
2. Asks more questions about the reasons for things			
3. Original in sharing ideas with others			
4. Understands more quickly			
5. Is a keen, alert observer			
6. Enjoys humor; understands more humor			
7. Likes to organize and bring structure to things and situations			
8. Has a longer attention span			
9. Likes to discuss what has been read			
10. Remembers details			
11. Has more ability in the arts			
12. Is more imaginative and creative			
13. Spends more time on area of interest such as looking at pictures, reading, writing painting, crafts, or collecting			
14. Shows less patience in routine activities			
15. Relates well to older children and adults			
16. Is critical of self, often demanding perfectionism			
17. Is more sensitive to the feeling of others; shows a sense of global concern			
18. Is self-assertive in own beliefs			
19. Singled out by peers for help and ideas			

Farragut Gifted Education Personal Education Plan

Student: _____

Date Identified: _____

Current Teacher(s): _____

Qualifying Criteria:

The Plan

Date	Student Needs	Services Provided	Future Needs

Content, skills, and activities completed annually: