

INSTRUCTION

Gifted and Talented Programs

Nomination

Nominations for consideration to be included in the Talent Pool may be made by parents, teachers, students and community members. The Talent Pool consists of 4th and 5th grade students who have demonstrated unusual talent and capabilities indicating the need for provisions outside of the regular curriculum. These students are identified and receive services according to the procedures outlined in Chapter 392-170 of the Washington Administrative Code. Nomination forms are available in every elementary school office and may be accepted any time prior to September 25 for consideration in the fall Talent Pool and November 25 for consideration in the spring Talent Pool.

Assessment

All third grade students will be assessed with a norm-referenced achievement test and a cognitive ability test. Those who qualify according to the WAC's will be listed along with the nominated students on a *Student Data Sheet*. The following data will be compiled:

- a. Evidence that the student scores in the top ten percent in cognitive ability as demonstrated by a standardized ability test and at least in the top 50th percentile in reading and math;
- b. Evidence that the student scores in the top five percent in one or more specific academic achievement area; and/or
- c. Evidence that the student demonstrates behavioral characteristics for exceptional creativity.

Selection

A multi-disciplinary selection team will meet composed of a district administrator, psychologist or other individual who can interpret cognitive and achievement test results, and a teacher(s) with experience and training in teaching highly capable students. If such a teacher is not available, a classroom teacher shall be appointed. The team will review the data that has been collected for each of the nominated students. They will select those students who would receive the most benefit from participating in the program. The following steps are:

- A. Notify parents of students who have been selected;
- B. Schedule a meeting of all such parents; and
- C. Solicit a signed *Letter of Understanding* from each parent who desires to enroll his/her child in the program.