

## **TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT GUIDELINES AND SERVICES**

The Twinsburg City School District believes that the instructional program should provide a variety of instructional methods, materials, experiences, and evaluations to meet the needs of every learner. In the continuing effort to meet the different educational needs of gifted and highly-able learners, the following information has been gathered to help communicate about the guidelines, services, and enrichment options for children in our district. Many educational opportunities are available, depending on the grade level and individual needs of the student.

Students are identified as gifted according to Ohio law (O.R.C. 3324.01-3324.07) and parents are notified if their child has met the criteria for state identification. Identification occurs in four categories:

- 1. Superior Cognitive Ability**
- 2. Specific Academic Ability (Reading, Math)**
- 3. Creative Thinking Ability**
- 4. Visual or Performing Arts Ability**

The needs of children who are identified in the categories of **Superior Cognitive Ability** and **Specific Academic Ability** may be met through a variety of opportunities, including: differentiation within the regular classroom setting, acceleration by subject or grade, Honors courses, advanced courses, single subject team-taught gifted classes, college campus programs, and extra-curricular opportunities. Each option has defined requirements for participation.

The needs of children who are identified in **Creative Thinking Ability** are met by infusing creativity and creative thinking skills in the classroom through lessons and content. **Visual or Performing Arts Ability** are met through our extensive art and music programs. Participation at the lower grade levels is open in art, music, band, and orchestra. At the upper grade levels, auditions and portfolios may be required.

### **WILCOX PRIMARY: Grades Preschool – K-1 SAMUEL BISSELL ELEMENTARY: Grade 2**

Wilcox and Bissell teachers begin the Twinsburg tradition of providing enrichment opportunities and accommodations for students within the regular classroom setting. These opportunities are made available for any child who demonstrates educational need. These may include, but are not limited to: early entrance, learning centers, subject acceleration, and interdisciplinary units. The depth, breadth, and pace of learning should be appropriate for each student.

## **SAMUEL BISSELL ELEMENTARY: Grade 3 & GEORGE G. DODGE INTERMEDIATE: Grades 4-6**

In addition to accommodations within each individual classroom, two options have been designed to meet the needs of the highly-able students at Bissell, Gr. 3 and Dodge, Gr. 4-6:

- 1. Gifted Classrooms for the Superior Cognitive Area (Gr. 3)**
- 2. Single Subject Team-Taught Gifted Classrooms for the Superior Cognitive Area (Gr. 4-6)**
- 3. Enrichment Cluster Group Classrooms for the Specific Academic Areas (Gr. 3-6)**

The focus of these options is to challenge the students beyond the academic expectations of a typical classroom setting with emphasis on higher level and divergent thinking skills. The students will receive an enriched implementation of the grade level curriculum/course of study.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Every second, third, and fifth grade student is considered for the following year's services based on testing. Additional students may be added to the upper grade classes, as additional test results are available.

#### **Tier 1: SUPERIOR COGNITIVE ABILITY for SINGLE SUBJECT TEAM-TAUGHT GIFTED CLASSROOMS PLACEMENT**

**128 or above on the Cognitive Abilities Test  
(or comparable scale)  
PLUS**

**95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above in one or more of the following  
academic areas: Reading and/or Mathematics based on the  
Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) testing  
(or comparable scale)**

#### **Tier 2: SPECIFIC ACADEMIC for ENRICHMENT CLUSTER GROUP CLASSROOMS PLACEMENT**

**95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the Measures of Academic  
Progress (MAP) testing  
(or comparable scale)**

**in one or more of the following academic areas:  
Reading and/or Mathematics**

#### **Tier 3: SUPERIOR COGNITIVE ABILITY—UNIQUE NEEDS**

**132 or above on the Cognitive Abilities Test  
(or comparable scale)**

## **SINGLE SUBJECT TEAM-TAUGHT GIFTED CLASSROOMS DESCRIPTION**

A team of two teachers has been designated for teaching the students identified as Superior Cognitive (Tier 1). Students who qualify as Tier 1 will be placed in either of the homerooms of this team (with parent permission). At least one of the team teachers will have certification/licensure in gifted education.

## **ENRICHMENT CLUSTER GROUP CLASSROOMS DESCRIPTION**

The cluster groups are designed to enrich students who are highly-able in the Specific Academic areas of Language Arts and/or Mathematics (Tier 2). Students are placed in small groups within designated classrooms for targeted differentiated instruction. Language Arts and Social Studies students will be clustered together; Math and Science students will also be clustered together. All cluster students may receive differentiated instruction in other academic areas, not only in their designated cluster area(s). Other students in the cluster classrooms will be of average ability.

### **UNIQUE NEEDS**

Children whose cognitive abilities far surpass their measured educational achievement may have unique educational needs. Children in Tier 3 may be placed in either the Single Subject Team-Taught Gifted Classroom or an Enrichment Cluster Group Classroom with input from parents and school personnel.



## **R. B. CHAMBERLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL: Grades 7-8**

A variety of services are available for highly-able students at Chamberlin Middle School such as Honors courses, individual modifications in the classroom, extra-curricular projects, subject acceleration, and courses for high school credit (Ex.: Algebra I, Honors Geometry, and World Language courses).

### **HONORS COURSES**

**Honors courses are challenging courses offered in the following areas: Language Arts, Grades 7 and 8; Social Studies and Science, Grade 8. Placement is determined by an established criteria, which includes multiple testing data, teacher recommendation, and work samples.**

Honors courses offer increased rigor and interesting opportunities for academic growth for students who have demonstrated high potential and enjoyment of a specific academic area of the curriculum. Higher-level reading materials, increased pacing, vocabulary building, advanced writing skills, student discussions, speaking skills and leadership skills will be emphasized. Students taking Honors courses will be required to complete readings prior to the beginning of school. Students may also be required to complete approximately five hours per week of reading/writing outside the classroom setting. In addition, students may be offered special learning experiences (field trips or events at the school) based on curriculum content.

## **TWINSBURG HIGH SCHOOL: Grades 9-12**

Twinsburg High School offers many opportunities for highly-able and motivated students, including Advanced Placement, Honors courses, extensive art and music courses, enrichment opportunities, extracurricular offerings, foreign travel, and Post-Secondary Options. Participation is based on several factors including student interest, test scores, grade point average, auditions, portfolios, and/or the successful completion of required prerequisite coursework.

### **HONORS COURSES**

Honors courses are challenging courses that are offered. Sample offerings may include: Honors World History; Honors Humanities; Honors English 9, 10, and 11; Honors Geometry; Honors Algebra 2; Honors Pre-Calculus; Honors Biology; and Honors Spanish IV.

### **COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS**

College Credit Plus enables high school students to take courses at a university for concurrent college and high school credit. The students must be accepted by the college or university for this special program. It is recommended for highly-able students who have exhausted the high school curriculum in a particular subject area or for students who may have a particularly long higher education career in the future such as in medicine.

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

Advanced Placement courses are offered within the regular high school curriculum. For a charge, students may take a special exam in May that may allow the student to receive college credit for the course. Course offerings may include: AP U.S. History, AP U.S. Government, AP Psychology, AP Literature and Composition, AP Language and Composition, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, AP Physics I & II, AP Chemistry, AP Studio Art, AP Art History, AP Human Geography, AP European History, AP Spanish, and AP Music Theory.

### **ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES & EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPTIONS for HIGH SCHOOL**

Enrichment opportunities and extra-curricular options may include, but are not limited to:

A Cappella Choir	Science Club
Cheerleading	Show Choir
Drama Club	Video experiences
Drill Team	Vocational Clubs
Foreign Language Club	Yearbook
Governor's Art Award Competition	
Governor's Summer Institutes	
iLead	
Interscholastic Sports	
Jazz Band	
National Honor Society	
Scholastic Art Competition	
Student Government	

### **Special Notes**

- Although certain services are described, the individual child is very important. If a child does not "qualify" for a certain type of program, every effort will be made to encourage and make accommodations for that child within the regular classroom setting.
- Students who have moved in from other districts need to meet the Twinsburg guidelines for various programs.
- Preschool through grade 12 consultation is available from the teachers of gifted students and from the Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County Coordinators for Gifted Services.

**For more information, please contact your building principal.**



# **Guidelines, Services, and Enrichment Opportunities for GIFTED and HIGHLY-ABLE Students**



**TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOLS  
11136 Ravenna Road  
Twinsburg, OH 44087  
330-486-2000**