

TAG PHILOSOPHY

Jewell School District is committed to identifying and providing for the unique intellectual, social, emotional, and career needs of Talented and Gifted (TAG) students.

It is our goal to provide appropriate educational programs and services through instructional, curricular, and administrative modifications to create educational opportunities for TAG students which will maximize their individual potential.

We believe that Talented and Gifted students exist in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups across gender, and we are committed to identifying them and providing appropriate services.

OREGON TALENTED AND GIFTED EDUCATION ACT

Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) outline the specific requirements of The Oregon Talented and Gifted Education Act. These rules and statutes apply to all children grades K-12.

The Oregon Administrative Rules for Oregon Talented and Gifted Education Act are as follows:

1. Each school district shall have policies and procedures for the identification of Talented and Gifted students.
2. Each school district shall have a written plan for programs and services.
3. The instruction provided to identified students shall address their assessed levels of learning and accelerated rates of learning.
4. Parent Rights of Talented and Gifted Students:
 - ▲ School districts shall inform parents at the time of the identification of the child of the programs and services available.
 - ▲ School districts shall provide an opportunity for parents to provide input about the programs and services to be received.
 - ▲ Parents may request the withdrawal of their child from programs and services.
 - ▲ Parents shall be informed of the right to file a

OAR 581-22-403, 581-22-404, 581-22-406

IS MY CHILD TALENTED AND GIFTED?

A Talented and Gifted child will show many of the characteristics from both of the following categories.

BRIGHT CHILD GIFTED LEARNER

Knows the answers	Asks the questions
Is interested	Is highly curious
Is attentive	Is mentally and physically involved
Has good ideas	Has wild, silly ideas
Works hard	Plays around, yet tests well
Answers the questions	Discusses the detail, elaborates
Top group	Beyond the group
Listens with interest	Shows strong feelings and opinions
Learns with ease	Already knows
6-8 repetitions for mastery	1-2 repetitions for mastery
Understands ideas	Constructs abstractions
Enjoys peers	Prefers adults
Grasps the meaning	Draws inferences
Completes assignments	Initiates projects
Is receptive	Is intense
Copies accurately	Creates a new design
Enjoys school	Enjoys learning
Absorbs information	Manipulates information
Technician	Inventor
Good memorizer	Good guesser
Enjoys straight forward sequential presentation	Thrives on complexity
Is alert	Is keenly observant
Is pleased with own learning	Is highly self-critical

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If you want to discuss the identification process regarding your child, contact your school's TAG Advocate.

IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Jewell School District identifies students in the categories of Academic Talents and Intellectual Gifts. Those identified as Academically Talented have shown specific ability in either reading or math. Intellectually Gifted students have demonstrated unusual capabilities in mental reasoning.

Identification is based on **multiple criteria** that call for a consistent pattern of excellence over time. One piece of evidence is a score at or above the 97th percentile on a nationally standardized test of academic achievement or mental ability or the potential to score at this level. Additional information must be gathered, and may include referral forms, classroom test scores, work samples, grades, and anecdotal records. **No single test score, measure, or piece of evidence shall be the sole criterion for identification or prevent students from being identified.**

Step 1: Initial Screening/Referral

Classroom teachers, parents, or community members may refer a student (K-12) to the school's TAG Advocate and TAG Services Team. Students may also make self-referrals. All students in kindergarten through second grade are screened by classroom teachers using the Kingore Observation Inventory (KOI), and students in grades three through eight are screened through the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), state assessment scores, and classroom characteristic surveys.

Step 2: Data Review

When a student has been referred, the TAG Service Team collects and reviews applicable data. In addition to standardized test scores, this data must include at least two other pieces of supporting evidence such as work samples, grades, or parent/teacher referral forms. The TAG Services Team then decides whether the student:

1. meets criteria for identification,
2. may meet criteria, but more information is needed, or
3. does not meet criteria.

Step 3: Testing

When additional information is needed, individual testing may be requested. Parent permission is required for individual testing. Test results will be shared with parents and the TAG Services Team.

Step 4: Communication

Parents and the student's teacher (s) will be notified of the identification decision. Parents have the right to appeal the decision if they disagree, and should contact the principal.

Questions regarding the identification process should be directed to the school's TAG Advocate or the TAG Program Assistant for Identification/Special Needs.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES FOR TAG STUDENTS

For students identified as Talented and Gifted (TAG), instructional services are provided through an **in-class model**, where TAG students are clustered for instruction. In this model the classroom teacher is the primary service provider. Classroom teachers are responsible for assessing the student's level and rate of learning and providing appropriate instruction. This applies to **all** grade levels, and for **all** subject areas or courses. Regardless of the category of identification, all identified students receive instruction at their assessed level and rate of learning in all content areas.

At the secondary level, contact your child's counselor for scheduling options to develop a long term academic plan.

Level of Learning is the student's instructional level in the curriculum, the place where the student will be successful, but will encounter knowledge and skills he or she has not yet learned or mastered.

Rate of Learning is a measure of the pace at which a student successfully progresses through the curriculum after being placed at the

appropriate level. A student's rate of learning will vary depending on the following:

- ▲ subject
- ▲ point in the learning process
- ▲ degree in interest to the student
- ▲ level of difficulty of the material, and/or
- ▲ learning style of the student.

At all levels, the goal is to ensure that the gifted learner is stimulated and challenged throughout the school day by means of advanced content, flexible pacing, higher order thinking skills, research, projects, and/or materials appropriate for the student's learning.

INSTRUCTIONAL PLANS

- ▲ An individual Elementary TAG Instructional Plan for grades K-5 will be written. This plan documents assessments and instructional modifications for each identified TAG student.
- ▲ A TAG Instructional Course Plan for grades 6-12 will be written for each course. The plan outlines assessment and instructional modifications for the accommodation of assessed level and accelerated rate of learning. Course plans for grades 6-12 are available at conference time and in the school office.

At all grades, parents have an opportunity to provide input into instructional planning. The nature of this opportunity may vary. Information about how parents can give input will be provided by the school. Questions regarding instructional plans and options should be directed to the school principal or TAG Advocate.

Supplemental Programs and Services

Other programs and services that provide interesting and challenging opportunities **may** be available in your child's school. Programs such as these add value to a student's overall educational experience. Many of these programs are dependent on school resources, parent volunteers, community support, or special teacher training. Contact your school for

more information about what may be available for your child and how you may become involved. Listed below are some examples:

- ▲ Odyssey of the Mind (OM)
- ▲ 24 Math Challenge
- ▲ Junior Great Books
- ▲ Apprenticeships in Science and Engineering
- ▲ WordMasters
- ▲ Clubs
- ▲ Pentagames
- ▲ Math League
- ▲ Model United Nation

STANDARDS FOR JEWELL SCHOOL TALENTED AND GIFTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

These Standards will function as a framework and communication tool for designing and documenting appropriate instruction. The qualities of a strong program are consistent throughout all schools K-12. The eight Standards around which each school's program is built are as follows:

- I. There will be an ongoing search for students eligible for TAG services.
- II. Information will be provided by the school to parents in a timely manner when a student is identified.
- III. Level (s) and rate (s) of learning will be assessed.
- IV. Documentation of instruction for assessed level (s) of learning and accelerated rates (s) of learning will exist.
- V. There will be opportunities for parent input and regular communication among parents, school staff and students.
- VI. There will be a shared responsibility among parents, school staff and students.
- VII. Appropriate service options for each student to work at assessed level (s) and accelerated rates (s) of learning will exist.
- VIII. Opportunities for interaction with other TAG students will exist.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any specific questions about your child, contact your school's TAG Advocate. If you have questions regarding testing or district policies contact one of the following people at _____

Identification Process.....

Elementary Program.....

Secondary Program.....

JEWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

Dr. Brian Gander, Superintendent

School District 8 complies with provisions of the various civil rights laws, such as the Fair Employment Practices Act, Title IX Regulations and section 504 of PL 93.112 in employment and education programs and activities.

Talented And Gifted Programs And Services

Jewell School
District #8

