



## Solon City Schools Information for the Identification Of Children Who Are Gifted by Ohio Standards

---

### Information for Parents

“Gifted” by the state of Ohio standards means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment and who are identified under division (A), (B), (C), or (D) of section 3324.03 of the Revised Code.

The Solon City Schools and all Ohio schools screen and assess students who perform or show potential for performing at high levels of accomplishment according to state standards in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creativity and visual and/or performing arts.

The pre-assessment part of the process involves gathering student data from a variety of sources. All students are considered in the pre-assessment pool. Parents, teachers or other children may refer a student for further assessment for state identification as gifted based on observed performance and evidence. Parents who wish to refer their child for consideration as gifted by state standards must turn in the necessary referral forms to their building principal no **later than Sept. 7th** for fall screening or **January 11th** for spring screening. Referral forms may be obtained from the building principal.

Through the pre-assessment process, the district ensures equal access to screening and further assessment for all district children, including culturally or linguistically diverse children, children from low socioeconomic status, children with disabilities, and children who are limited English proficient.

**Whole grade screening** is administered to students in **grades 2 and 4** in January and February. State-determined cut-off scores to move students from screening stage to the assessment stage are lower than the scores necessary for state identification. Parents are notified within thirty days after receipt of test scores of the results of screening.

Solon uses approved Ohio Department of Education (ODE) gifted and identification/screening instruments and the eligibility criteria for superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability and visual or performing arts ability.

To designate a child as gifted by state standards, Solon accepts scores on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education. These may be provided by other school districts and/or trained personnel outside the school district.

The district ensures that any child **transferring into the district** may be assessed for state gifted identification within 90 days of the transfer if the transfer occurs September – March **at the request of the parent**. If the transfer occurs in March – August, the child may be assessed within 90 days of the start of the school year. Parents should contact the building principal to request testing for state identification.

Although identification of children who are gifted is mandated by the state, district level programs and services for these children are not mandated. However, Solon provides classroom experiences through differentiated instruction which are appropriate to the needs of gifted learners.

A parent may appeal the results of any part of the state identification process which would include screening procedures or assessment instruments (which results in state identification), the scheduling of children for assessment, the placement of a student in any program, and receipt of services.

Parents should request a Gifted Appeal Form from the building principal and submit to the Director of Pupil Services outlining the nature of the concern and the steps taken to resolve the concern. The Director of Pupil Services will convene a meeting with the parent/guardian, which may include other school personnel. The Director of Pupil Services will issue a written final decision with 30 days of the appeal. This written notice includes the reason for the decision(s).