

## Intellectual Evaluation

Children are assessed using a research-based IQ Test to determine if they meet the criteria for the Open Doors—Gifted Education Program. A student must score at or above the 91st percentile composite/full scale or the 91st percentile on approved subtests (as per publisher) in order to satisfy eligibility criteria.

Students who have satisfied criteria on the Emerging Potential for Gifted Checklist who did not satisfy minimal acceptable criteria on an individual test of intelligence, but did score at least at the 84th percentile or have a scale score that falls within the range of the 90th percentile confidence interval of the state minimum scale/percentile score, may be administered The Gifted Education Matrix to determine eligibility criteria.

## District LSC Meeting

The District LSC meets to determine if your child has satisfied ALL of the requirements for the Open Doors—Gifted Education Program. If met, the child will receive a ruling of Eligible. If he or she did not meet the requirements, he or she will be considered Ineligible.

## Parental Notification

The Gifted Teacher at your child's school will notify you concerning your child's gifted status. If deemed Eligible, you will receive a Letter of Eligibility and a Permission to Place form to sign and return granting placement of your child in the Open Doors—Gifted Education Program. If your child is deemed Ineligible, you will receive a letter stating he or she did not meet the criteria.

## Open Doors—Gifted Education Program

Your child begins the experience of being in the Open Doors—Gifted Education Program.



## QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

For any questions or concerns regarding your child's eligibility, please contact Dr. April M. Shearer, Psychometrist/Gifted Contact Person.



## Jackson Public School District



## OPEN DOORS— GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM

## REFERRAL TO PLACEMENT GUIDE

## Advanced Learning Programs

630 South State Street  
Jackson, MS 39201  
Phone: (601) 960-8310  
Fax: (601) 960-2509

## OVERVIEW

The Open Doors—Gifted Education Program is for intellectually gifted students in grades 2-8. The purpose of the Gifted Education Program is to identify and serve gifted students in a uniquely qualitatively differentiated program not available in the regular classroom. According to the Mississippi Department of Education's Standards for the Gifted Education Programs (2013), "[g]ifted education programs shall be in addition to and different from the regular program of instruction provided by the district's schools."

The Open Doors-Gifted Education Program provides instruction in thinking skills, creativity, information literacy, success skills, affective (social and emotional) skills, and communication skills. Students enrolled in the district's gifted education program have met criteria established by the state of Mississippi.



## REFERRAL PROCESS

### Mass Screening

Students in 1st & 2nd grades are Mass Screened once a year in the Spring using the Raven's Progressive Matrices. The Raven's is administered as a nonverbal group test. It is typically a 60-item test used in measuring abstract reasoning and regarded as a non-verbal estimate of fluid intelligence. Many patterns are presented in the form of a 6×6, 4×4, 3×3, or 2×2 matrix, giving the test its name. All of the questions on the Raven's progressives consist of visual geometric design with a missing piece. The test taker is given six to eight choices to pick from before filling in the missing piece. Students who obtain a full-scale score of 90th percentile or higher shall move forward in the referral process.

### Individual Screening

Students in grades 3–6 may be referred for Individual Screening beginning in October each school year by a parent, teacher, counselor, administrator, peer, self or anyone else having a reason to believe that student might be intellectually gifted. Students will be administered the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test 8 (OLSAT-8) as the screening instrument. The OLSAT-8 measures cognitive abilities that relate to a student's academic success in school. By assessing a student's verbal, nonverbal, and quantitative ability, OLSAT-8 supplies valuable information to enhance the insights gained from traditional achievement tests. Students who obtain a full-scale score of 90th percentile or higher shall move forward in the referral process.

## GRS

Teachers complete the Gifted Rating Scales (GRS) on all students making a 90% or above. The Gifted Rating Scales are norm-referenced rating scales based on current theories of giftedness and federal and state guidelines regarding the definition of gifted students. Teachers complete six brief scales. The six domains include intellectual, academic, motivation, creativity, leadership and artistic talent. The student must meet the 84th percentile or higher in at least two of the areas of leadership, creativity or intellectual ability.

### School LSC Meeting

The gifted teacher conducts a Local Survey Committee (LSC) meeting with the teacher, administrator and counselor to determine if the student can proceed to the next stage. The committee also consider **Emerging Potential** for students that meet certain criteria that enables them to proceed with a score in the 85th percentile or higher during the referral process.

### Permission to Test

If the LSC determines your child can proceed, you will receive both a FERPA Letter and Permission to Test form to sign and return in order for your child to be assessed.