

Prairie Heights School Corporation

Multifaceted High-Ability Identification Plan

Please note: The purpose of the identification process is to identify the top “ten percent” of students, in each class peer group. The total of qualifying students for *Aptitude Measures* and *Achievement Measures*, combined, should total the top 8%-10% of the peer class, but cannot exceed 10% of the total grade-level population. (A class may only be able to identify closer to 8% of its total population as high-ability.)

Elementary:

❖ Aptitude Measure

- Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), - Given to all kindergarten students.
- Otis Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) - Given to all 2nd, and 4th graders.
- CogAT *or* OLSAT (depending on his or her grade level) will be given to any student who is new to the school if:
 - There is no record of a current (compatible) ability test in the transfer file, *and...*
 - The current teacher, or the child’s parent (legal guardian) recommends the student for the program, *or*
 - The student was in a high-ability placement at his or her previous school, but the previous school used different assessment aptitude criteria.

❖ Achievement Measure

- A combination of STAR Math/Reading scores *and* NWEA Math/Reading Scores are used to determine achievement qualifications. A single percentage for the year for STAR *trend-line* is averaged with the current term NWEA score to determine an overall percentage score. Scores of 96%, and up, or where the “natural break of ability”, is evident, within the peer group, in each specific grade level.) are considered for high-ability placement.
- ILearn - is not used as an identifier. *However*, an *Above Proficient* score can be used as a supporting score, if a current HA student does not have a current “update” qualifying score, but is close to the rest of the HA peer group, and has a *Above Proficient* score (in the previous qualifying subject area), they may maintain their HA qualification for one year.

Middle School:

❖ Aptitude Measure

- Otis Lennon Test (OLSAT)- given to all 7th graders, and will be given to any student who is new to the school if:
 - There is no record of a current (compatible) ability test in the transfer file, *and...*
 - The current teacher, or the child's parent (legal guardian) recommends the student for the program, *or*
 - The student was in a high-ability placement at his or her previous school, but the previous school used different assessment aptitude criteria.

❖ Achievement Measure

- STAR Math *and* STAR Reading - Current year *trend-line* scores are used in 5th grade to identify the top percentile averages (96th percentile and up, or where the “natural break of ability”, is evident, within the peer group, in each specific grade level.)
- NWEA Math *and* NWEA Reading - Spring scores are used every year in grades 5-7, to identify the top percentiles (96th percentile and up, or where the “natural break of ability”, is evident, within the peer group, in each specific grade level.)
- Qualifying students are required to enroll in, and complete, courses that are considered challenging/enriching for their ability level.
 - Math: The student is expected to take Math+ class in each grade during their middle school career.
 - Language Arts: The student is expected to take English+ and Reading+ classes in each grade during their middle school career.

High School:

❖ Aptitude Measure

- PSAT - given to all 10th graders. (Students who are in the 96th percentile, and higher, will automatically qualify. The qualifying percentile can be dropped to “fit” the local population scores, to be “reflective” of the top 10th percentile of this group. The qualifying individual scores cannot be below the 89th percentile, but may not reach that lowest level.)
- PSAT optional: Any 11th graders who sign-up

❖ Achievement Measure

- Pre-Qualified Students (middle school identified or PSAT qualifiers) are required to enroll in, and complete, courses that are considered challenging/enriching for their ability level.

Note: Students cannot qualify through high school coursework, but must maintain their status if previously qualified through qualifying classes.

- Math: The student is expected to take the highest level courses offered for their current status, based on previous courses taken and/or required prerequisite courses. (there cannot be a lapse in coursework.)
- Language Arts: The student is expected to take the highest level courses offered for their current status, based on previous courses taken and/or required prerequisite courses. (there cannot be a lapse in coursework.)

For more information, contact the high ability coordinators at phhighability@ph.k12.in.us .