

SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: GIFTED STUDENTS

ADOPTED: November 11, 2002

REVISED: May 6, 2013

114. GIFTED STUDENTS	
<p>1. Purpose 22 Pa. Code Ch. 16</p>	<p>To incorporate by reference and adopt as the policy of the District the requirements of Chapter 16 of the regulations of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education concerning the education of students who are mentally gifted and who, by reason thereof, are in need of specially designed instruction and support services.</p>
<p>2. Incorporation and adoption of laws and regulations</p>	<p>The policy of the Southern Lehigh School District is to adhere to and implement faithfully for all resident school aged children who are mentally gifted or who are thought to be mentally gifted the requirements of Chapter 16 of the regulations of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education, as they exist on the date of the adoption of this policy and as they may be hereafter revised or amended.</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Authority and Assignment of Duties</p>	<p><i>In General.</i> The Superintendent or his or her designee shall adopt such procedures and practices as are necessary to identify, screen, evaluate, and program for all students who are mentally gifted.</p> <p><i>District Representative at GIEP team.</i> The following staff members shall be authorized to serve as the District representative at GIEP team meetings and to commit the resources of the District at such meetings when such staff are knowledgeable about resources available for eligible students: Director of Student Services, Director of Special Education, Supervisor of Special Education, Principal, and Assistant Principal. The following additional staff members may also serve in the capacity on a case-by-case basis when such staff are knowledgeable about resources available for students who are mentally gifted and when so designated in writing for a particular meeting by a Director of Student Services or Special Education or by a Principal: Counselor, Gifted Support Teacher, and School Psychologist.</p>
<p>4. Assigned Duties Defined</p>	<p><i>Identification and Screening.</i> The Superintendent or his or her designee shall ensure that all information concerning gifted screening, evaluations, eligibility criteria, programs and services, and parent rights are published to the community, including to parents of students attending private schools, through at least one newspaper of general circulation, on the District Website, and by posting or other means of conspicuous display in each public school. The Superintendent or his or her designee shall also ensure that information concerning student achievement,</p>

performance, and behavior that might indicate gifted ability is collected at regular intervals and reviewed by appropriate staff, and that screening activities are undertaken by appropriate staff in a manner that enables those staff to discern valid evidence of gifted ability. Screening instruments and techniques shall be reliable and free of racial, gender, national origin, and disability bias.

Evaluations. The Superintendent or his or her designee shall ensure that multidisciplinary teams conduct timely evaluations of all students who, based on screening or on parent referral, are thought to be mentally gifted. Such evaluations shall use a variety of testing and assessment techniques that are valid for the purpose used, are reliable, and provide a measure of intellectual ability and other factors that indicate gifted ability.

Programming. Through the strategic planning process, the Superintendent or his or her designee shall ensure that a continuum of program and service options exists within the District to meet the needs of all mentally gifted students for enrichment, acceleration, or both.