

Southern Boone County Schools

Gifted Education



W.I.N.G.S.

Welcoming Individual Needs of Gifted Students

Program

Handbook for Parents, Teachers and Students

Board Approved September 16, 2019

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W.I.N.G.S. Program

Parent, Teacher and Student Handbook

Southern Boone County School District
Ashland, Missouri

Superintendent: Mr. Chris Felmlee
Assistant Superintendent: Dr. Tim Roth
Director of Special Services: Dannette Liles
Gifted Assessment Coordinator: Tesla Woods

Grades K-8

Primary Principal: Mrs. Brandy Clark
Elementary Principal: Dr. Amy James
Middle School Principal: Mr. Justin Griffith
W.I.N.G.S. Teacher: Mrs. Justine Rogers

FORWARD

This handbook gives you an overview of the Southern Boone County School Districts' program for gifted and talented students. Our program meets the National Association for Gifted Children Standards as well as the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Missouri Learning Standards.

At Southern Boone we define gifted children using state guidelines, Section 162.675.RSMo, as “those children who exhibit precocious development of mental capacity and learning potential as determined by competent professional evaluation to the extent that continued educational growth and stimulation could best be served by an academic environment beyond that offered through a standard grade level curriculum.” The program strives to offer qualitatively different curriculum, support in the classroom, and enjoyment of learning for these students.

Information about our program is included at our district website. You can log on to www.ashland.k12.mo.us. From there click on *Departments*, then click on *Gifted Education*. We look forward to an exciting year in W.I.N.G.S. If at any time you have any questions please contact Justine Rogers for grades K-8 at jrogers@ashland.k12.mo.us.

Gifted Education Goals

The Southern Boone County School District's gifted program is for the students who are in the top 5% of their class in two of the following areas, academic, creativity, and/or cognitive ability based on district assessment instruments. The primary, elementary and middle school program consists of students selected from grades 2 through 8. Students are divided into sections by age/grade level range. Kindergarten and First Grade are push in programs. The gifted teacher will conduct a minimum of three enrichment classes per classroom. For grades 2-8, it is a pull-out program in which each group meets a minimum of 150 minutes weekly. W.I.N.G.S. classes are designed to meet these goals:

Grade K

- Use creative thinking skills of fluency, flexibility, originality, and elaboration
- Develop skills needed for problem solving and independent research
- Foster appropriate social and emotional growth

Grades 1-5

- Use complex thinking, information processing, and effective communication to acquire and integrate knowledge
- Use complex thinking, information processing, and effective communication to extend and refine knowledge
- Develop positive attitudes and perceptions about learning
- Develop and practice creative thinking skills
- Develop the interpersonal skills needed for collaboration and cooperation

Grades 6-7

- Demonstrate ability to apply, synthesize, and evaluate information
- Use creative thinking skills of fluency, flexibility, originality, and elaboration
- Develop critical thinking, reasoning, problem solving, and logic skills
- Develop inquiry and research skills, and skill in oral and written communication and mathematics applications
- Use computer technology and peripheral software available in our district
- Demonstrate growth in social and emotional development

Grade 8

- Demonstrate ability to apply, synthesize, and evaluate information
- Use creative thinking skills of fluency, flexibility, originality and elaboration.
- Develop critical thinking, reasoning, problem solving, and logic skills
- Develop inquiry and research skills, and skill in oral and written communication and mathematics applications
- Use computer technology and peripheral software available in our district
- Demonstrate growth in social and emotional development
- Make appropriate educational and career plans

Scope and Sequence

A scope and sequence of performance skills has been developed in the major strands targeted by the Southern Boone County District's gifted curriculum. These areas are aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards and are spiraled throughout the experiences in the gifted program in increasingly challenging units of instruction.

Identification Process

Screening of all students in the schools takes place as an ongoing practice for all teachers. Students showing gifted tendencies can be identified by teachers and/or parents by completing a gifted referral form. When a completed referral has been received, parents will be notified, and the screening process will begin. Results from the screening process determine the need for further evaluation. (See Appendix A)

Evaluation is to identify students who have a current need for an educational intervention. Parents must give written consent prior to evaluation. Testing will only be done with parent permission. Cognitive tests will be administered by the district's school psychologist. Tests for Creativity and/or Academic Achievement may be administered by the W.I.N.G.S. teacher or school psychologist.

Parents will be notified of the testing results for their child. Upon request, parents may discuss the results with the Director of Special Services (573) 657-3216. If the student qualifies and parental permission is given, the student is placed in the W.I.N.G.S. program at the appropriate level with their peers.

A student transferring from another school who was in a gifted program will have records and documents reviewed for information or comparable assessments which may be substituted for those used within the Southern Boone County program. If data supports student eligibility, he/she will be placed in the W.I.N.G.S. program.

Staff Development

In accordance with state standards, our full-time gifted teacher is certified in this field. The district encourages the gifted teacher to participate in high quality professional development. The district allows and encourages the gifted teacher to collaborate with other gifted and talented programs in the surrounding area. All classroom teachers are updated on the characteristics and needs of gifted and talented learners.

GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Program level	Screening** (Student must meet at least 2 criteria to warrant further assessment.)
1 st Grade - 8th Grade	1) HOPE Teacher Rating Scale (Total >80P in one area) 2) Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (>P95) 3) Gifted Rating Scale (T=60 in one or more areas)

Evaluation/Selection** (For placement, students must meet criteria in three of the following four assessment areas.)
1) WJ-4 COG (GAI 95P) or equivalent state-approved IQ test 2) WJ-4 ACH (95P in at least 2 broad areas: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies) or equivalent nationally-normed academic achievement test 3) Profile of Creative Abilities (P89) 4) Gifted Rating Scale (T= 66 in at least one area or T= 60 in more than one area)

*The process outlined is for students who have attended only Southern Boone County R-1 Schools. The records of transfer students will be reviewed for other information or comparable assessments which may be substituted for those used within this district. Transfer students may be assessed through use of the district screening assessments. Students from military families who were in a gifted program in their previous school district will be automatically placed in the gifted education program.

**The screening and evaluation phases may use the same instruments but different standards. Screening is intended to locate students about whom more information should be collected. Evaluation is to identify students who have a current need for an educational intervention.

***Any student previously identified as ineligible for gifted testing may be re-tested one time. Requests for re-testing may be made by parents or teachers. Students must wait at least one calendar year from the time of the initial gifted assessment and be a minimum of eight years old to be considered eligible for re-testing.

Southern Boone County School District
Gifted Program
Referral Form
Form A

Student Name _____ Date _____

Grade _____ Teacher _____ School _____

Student is being referred by: (Check any) Classroom Teacher _____ Parent _____ Other _____

Form completed by: _____ (Check one) Teacher _____ Parent _____

Who are the gifted? *Defining giftedness in its many varieties is the first step toward recognizing gifted students in the classroom. While there is no single profile that describes every gifted student, certain characteristics and observable behaviors are often signals to indicate that a particular child might warrant closer observation and could require specialized educational attention, pending further evaluation.*

General Characteristics of Gifted and Talented Students

Please check the appropriate category for the above referenced student.

- 1. Has unusually advanced vocabulary for age. ___observed ___not observed
- 2. Is an avid reader. ___observed ___not observed
- 3. Is very curious about a great variety of things. ___observed ___not observed
- 4. Has quick mastery and recall of factual information. ___observed ___not observed
- 5. Is often absorbed in activity. ___observed ___not observed
- 6. Has rapid insight into cause-effect relationships. ___observed ___not observed
- 7. Is a keen and alert observer. ___observed ___not observed
- 8. Has exceptional ability to solve problems. ___observed ___not observed
- 9. Is easily bored with routine tasks. ___observed ___not observed
- 10. Is usually able to respond and relate well to adults. ___observed ___not observed

Comments: _____

Please return completed form to:

Tesla Woods, School Psychologist
Southern Boone Middle School
303 North Main
Ashland, MO 65010

References

- Callahan, Carolyn M. (2004). *Program Evaluation in Gifted Education*. California: Corwin Press.
- Columbia Public Schools. (2008). *Center for Gifted Education>>Gifted Program Outline*.
<http://service.columbia.k12.mo.us/gifted/gifted-program-outline/>
- Johnsen, Susan K. (2004). *Identifying Gifted Students: A Practical Guide*. Texas. Prufrock Press, Inc.
- Parkway School District. (2008). *Gifted Scope & Sequence*.
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