***Gifted Identification in a Specific Academic Area***

Specific academic identification refers to a child's achievement in a specific subject area that is consistently superior to the achievement of same grade peers. The district uses the i-Ready Diagnostic, an achievement assessment, administered three times a year in grades K-8, to screen for identification in the specific academic areas of reading and math. A student must achieve the 95th percentile or higher in any of these areas to be identified as gifted. A score of 50th percentile is considered average.

The school district also welcomes individual requests for gifted identification in specific academic areas. Students seeking individual identification will be assessed using alternative assessments. These tests may include the Woodcock Johnson Tests of Achievement or the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. A student must achieve the 95th percentile or higher in any of these areas to be identified as gifted. A score of 50th percentile is considered average.

**Whole grade Screening Schedule for Specific Academic Ability**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade Level** | **Area screened for identification** | **Assessment used** | **Approximate testing window** |
| Grades 2 through 8 | Reading and Math | iReady Diagnostic | Administered three times a year in each grade level  Beginning of year (August/September)  Middle of year  (December- January)  End of year  (May) |

**Individual Referral Screening Schedule for Specific Academic Ability**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade Level** | **Dates** | **Action taken** |
| K-12 | August- September 30 | Referrals for fall/winter alternative assessment individual referral accepted |
| K-12 | October- February 28 | Testing for fall and winter alternative assessment individual referrals completed |
| K-12 | October- February 28 | Referrals for spring alternative assessment individual referral accepted |
| K-12 | March- May 25 | Testing for spring alternative assessment individual referral completed |

**If you are interested in submitting an individual referral for gifted identification screening, please click HERE**