

Frequently Asked Questions About Gifted Services

1. Who can refer a child/student for a gifted evaluation?

Any parent or teacher can request a gifted evaluation.

2. How do I start a gifted referral/evaluation?

As a parent, you may write a letter, send an email or talk with the regular education teacher or building principal to request a gifted evaluation.

As a teacher, you need to talk with the gifted support teacher for your building.

3. What is involved in a gifted evaluation?

- a. The gifted support teacher will ask the regular education teacher to complete a rating scale, Scales for Identifying Gifted Students.
- b. The gifted support teacher will mail home for parents to complete a rating scale, Scales for Identifying Gifted Students.
- c. The gifted support teacher will work with the student to complete a screening test, Reynolds Intellectual Screening Test.
- d. The gifted support teacher will contact the parents to share this preliminary data.
- e. Special Services will mail Permission to Evaluate paperwork to the parents. Notice of Parents' Legal Rights for Chapter 16, Gifted Education is mailed with this Permission to Evaluate paperwork. We are required by PA law to send these Parental Rights.
- f. Once the parents have signed the Permission to Evaluate paperwork and sent it back to the school district, then the district has 60 calendar days to complete the evaluation. (See "k")
- g. The school psychologist will work with the student to complete ability testing/IQ testing.
- h. The school psychologist will work with the student to complete achievement testing.
- i. A Gifted Multidisciplinary Team (GMDT) meeting will occur to share all data collected. Team members include: parents, building principal or gifted coordinator, school psychologist, gifted support teacher, and regular education teacher.
- j. The team determines if the student meets the requirements based on PA and Hempfield's identification process to be identified as a gifted student.
- k. If the Permission to Evaluate paperwork is returned and there is the summer break, the summer counts as one day in this 60-day count.
- l. The school psychologist will complete a Gifted Written Report (GWR) within 10 days of the GMDT meeting.
- m. The parents will receive the Gifted Written Report (GWR) within 5 days of its completion.

4. What if I receive the Permission to Evaluate paperwork and I do not want a gifted evaluation for my child?

On the permission to Evaluate paperwork there is a box to check, "I object to the proposed initial Gifted Multidisciplinary Evaluation." Then parents need to sign and return the paperwork to document that the evaluation was offered but the parents declined the evaluation.

5. What if I want to stop the evaluation?

- a. If a parent signs Permission to Evaluate paperwork and then wants to change their mind they can stop the process.
- b. If the preliminary data (Scales for Identifying Gifted Students and Reynolds Intellectual Screening Test) do not indicate a strong possibility of the student being identified as a gifted student, the parents may choose to stop the evaluation.
- c. The Gifted Coordinator will mail the parents a NORA, Notice of Recommended Assignment that states based on the preliminary data the parents and the district choose to stop the gifted evaluation. The recommendation would be to continue regular education.
- d. Once the parents have signed and returned this NORA then the school psychologist is notified and the gifted evaluation stops.
- e. If the signed NORA is not received the school psychologist proceeds with the evaluation.

6. What do gifted services look like at Hempfield School District?

- a. A gifted support teacher reads the student's Gifted Written Report (GWR) and creates a Gifted Individualized Education Plan (GIEP) based on the student's strengths.
- b. The skills and habits from Dimensions of Learning are used to create the goals and objectives on the GIEP.
- c. At the elementary level, it is a pull out program that occurs during the building's intervention time or may be during core instruction time. Each building has its own schedule for gifted support services.
- d. At the middle school level, it is a class that is scheduled during the student's FLEX time.
- e. At the middle school level, it is consultative that is scheduled during the student's FLEX time.
- f. At the high school level, it is consultative that is scheduled during the student's FLEX time.
- g. At any level the student may be identified as gifted but may not need specially designed instruction.

7. What is a GIEP?

- a. A Gifted Individualized Education Plan (GIEP) is created every year for every student.
- b. It is revised around and before the anniversary date for the student.
- c. The team members are: parents, building principal or Gifted Coordinator, gifted support teacher/case manager and regular education teacher.
- d. At the middle school level, sometimes the student attends the GIEP meeting.
- e. At the high school level, the student always attends the GIEP meeting.
- f. At the middle school and high school level, the guidance counselor attends the GIEP meeting.

8. Can you tell me more about elementary gifted services?

- a. The student's goals and objectives are written based on the data in the Gifted Written Report (GWR) and the skills and habits from Dimensions of Learning.
- b. One class focuses on math extensions, logic and reasoning skills and an affective lesson.
- c. The second class focuses on the skills and habits embedded into a unit of study.
- d. Math extensions, logic & reasoning assignments and affective lessons are based on individual strengths.
- e. On the Hempfield website under Academics tab, Curriculum tab you will find the Year at a Glance documents for Gifted and be able to read all the elementary units of study.

9. Can you tell me more about middle school gifted services?

- a. The student's goals and objectives are written based on the data in the Gifted Written Report (GWR) and the skills and habits from Dimensions of Learning.
- b. On the Hempfield website under Academics tab, Curriculum tab you will find the Year at a Glance documents for Gifted and be able to read all the middle school units of study.
- c. If the student's GIEP is consultative, the goals and objectives are individualized for that student.
- d. At the middle school level, there is also push in where there the gifted support teacher will collaborate and teach with a content area teacher. This varies based on students' strengths.

10. Can you tell me more about high school gifted services?

- a. The student's goals and objectives are written based on the data in the Gifted Written Report (GWR) and the skills and habits from Dimensions of Learning.
- b. On the Hempfield website under Academics tab, Curriculum tab you will find the Year at a Glance documents for Gifted and be able to read class meetings for each grade level.
- c. There are class meetings for every grade level and they occur four times throughout the year. There are two meetings in each semester.
- d. The gifted support case manager meets individually with each student four times throughout the year. There are two meetings in each semester.
- e. The high school blog list all opportunities available to the gifted students.

11. What are the addresses for the gifted blogs?

- a. <http://einstein.hempfieldsd.org/elementarygifted/>
- b. <http://einstein.hempfieldsd.org/msgifted/>
- c. <http://einstein.hempfieldsd.org/hhsgifted/>

12. What about meeting my student's strengths in the regular curriculum?

The gifted support teacher/gifted case manager collaborates with the regular education teachers to monitor the student in reference to the regular curriculum. This collaboration time varies based on individual students (weekly/once a

cycle/as needed). The teachers work together to provide the necessary differentiated instruction.

13. Does Hempfield offer acceleration?

Yes. Acceleration decisions are based on the data collected about an individual student. If you would like to discuss single subject or whole grade acceleration, you would contact the Gifted Coordinator.

14. Who is the Gifted Coordinator for Hempfield?

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Gifted Education Coordinator
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Landisville Primary Center
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Landisville, PA 17538
Phone - 717-618-1997
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15. How do I know how well my child/student is doing?

- a. Gifted Progress Reports are electronically sent to parents at the end of each semester.
- b. GIEP meetings are held once a year to review and revise the student's goals and objectives.
- c. Parents may contact the gifted support teacher/case manager at any time to discuss the student or to request a meeting.

16. Does my child need to be re-evaluated?

No. A member of the GIEP team may request a re-evaluation. But by PA law we do not re-evaluation unless there is a request. Once a student is identified as gifted that continues until high school graduation. A parent may choose to decline gifted services.

17. What if my child is already receiving services for special education can they still be identified as gifted?

Yes. If this student goes through the gifted evaluation process and is identified as gifted, they will continue to have an IEP and their gifted goals and objectives will be part of the IEP. This student will follow all the rules and procedures for Special Education, which is Chapter 14.

18. What is the Universal Testing that occurs at the elementary level?

- a. All second grade students participate in the universal testing.
- b. The gifted support teacher for the building will do a deductive reasoning lesson with each class of second grade students.
- c. The Gifted Coordinator will do the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT2) with each class of second grade students.
- d. The Gifted coordinator shares the NNAT2 and deductive reasoning data with building principals, Director of Special Education, Elementary Special Education Coordinator and department leader for ESL.
- e. The gifted support teacher will share this data with the second grade

teachers. Together they will review all district data and this data to determine which students would be given the Reynolds Intellectual Screening Test (RIST).

- f. If a student performs well on the Reynolds Intellectual Screening Test (RIST) then the data is shared with parents with the suggestion to begin a gifted evaluation.
- g. Parents may decline a gifted evaluation.