



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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TALENTED AND GIFTED EDUCATION

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Thank you for your interest in nominating your child for Talented and Gifted services in Portland Public Schools. In considering your child for identification as intellectually gifted or academically talented in math or reading, please be aware of the following guidelines. According to Oregon Law 581-022-1310, an intellectually gifted or academically talented student is one who performs, or has the potential to perform, at or above the 97th percentile on nationally standardized tests of mental ability or academic achievement. In addition, multiple criteria are used including social and behavioral data, academic history, classroom achievement, etc. No single test is to be used as the sole determiner of TAG identification.

MULTI - STEP PROCESS

TAG identification is a multi-step process. Advocacy is the first part of this process and includes a *TAG Identification Process Form* that both parents and teachers fill out. The building TAG Leadership Team then collects additional information, including social and emotional variables, and student work. The District TAG Office schedules and administers standardized testing by school.

Once all the data has been collected, the building TAG Leadership Team meets to review the information and then forwards their recommendation to the District TAG Office, which makes the final decision in collaboration with the school. Notification of the final decision, "Yes," "No," or "Potential," is sent in writing to the school and parents from the District TAG Office.

A "No" decision may be appealed by contacting your building principal. A child identified as "Potential" is one who generally has not met all of the criteria for TAG identification, but demonstrates the potential to perform at higher levels of achievement. Students identified as "Potential" will receive the same TAG services as students who are identified as TAG.

IF MY CHILD IS IDENTIFIED FOR TAG, WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

In Elementary Schools (K-8), TAG Instructional Plans are written in the fall outlining programs and/or services for instructional level and rate of learning. In Middle and High Schools (6-12), TAG Instructional Plans are written upon request only. The forecast sheet is the official notification of programs and services. Parents will be encouraged to give input to the teacher for program planning.

NEXT STEP

If you decide to pursue a Talented and Gifted Nomination for your student, Oregon law requires that we receive your written consent before we begin testing. If you do not consent to have your child tested, no further action will be taken toward eligibility. **Please sign the *TAG Identification Process Form* and return it to your child's teacher by November 30, 2007.**

If you have any questions, please contact your school Principal or call the District TAG Office at 503-916-3358. You may also visit the PPS TAG Website at www.tag.pps.k12.or.us/