

Gifted and Talented Education

The Board of Education is dedicated to providing comprehensive programming for the identification and education of the gifted and talented student. Gifted and talented students are those students between the ages of four and twenty-one whose abilities, talents, and potential for accomplishment are so exceptional or developmentally advanced that they require special provisions to meet their educational programming needs. The Board believes that a quality instructional program that differentiates curriculum and instruction is essential so all students can learn and grow at their level of potential.

To the extent resources are available for this purpose, the superintendent or designee shall develop and implement programming designed to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students that:

- encourages acceleration and enrichment beyond the basic curriculum.
- offers a differentiated curriculum that includes higher cognitive concepts and processes.
- uses instructional strategies that accommodate the learning styles of the gifted and talented.
- fosters the individual growth of each student.
- supports students in the attainment of state and district academic content standards.
- assists students with pre-collegiate and/or pre-advanced placement programs, and
- provides guidance support systems, including identifying post-secondary options.

The programming shall include early identification of gifted and talented students who are at least 5 years of age and may include the early identification of 4 and 5 year old highly advanced gifted students. The programming shall also include ongoing professional development of staff who administer, supervise or teach in such programs. The program will be regularly evaluated.

The superintendent or designee shall submit to the Colorado Department of Education a program plan to identify and serve gifted and talented students and may submit a program plan to serve 4 and 5 year old highly advanced gifted students no later than April 30 of each year. The program plan shall contain elements specified by CDE so the district [or administrative unit] will be eligible for state funding for these students. Except as otherwise required by law, the superintendent or designee shall have the final determination regarding placement of students in district programs for the gifted and talented.

San Juan Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) shall be designated as the districts official Gifted and Talented service provider.

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-20-101 through 114 (*Exceptional Children's Education Act*)

C.R.S. 22-54-103 (10) (*allows district to count and receive funding for four and five year old "highly advanced gifted children" enrolled in kindergarten and first grade*)

1 CCR 301-8-2220-R-12.00 (*gifted and talented and highly advanced gifted children*)