

# **Noxubee County School District**

## **Gifted Education Program Policies and Procedures**

The Noxubee County School District will incorporate as the basis for their Gifted Education Program (GEP), The Mississippi Gifted Education Act of 1989, and the Regulations for Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi 2013. The gifted Education Program, S.P.A.R.K.S. (Special People Achieving Rich Knowledge and Success), will serve intellectually gifted students in grades 2 - 6. Mississippi Department of Education gifted regulations and state mandate require that intellectually gifted students be provided services by a teacher with gifted endorsement for a minimum of five hours per week.

### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Noxubee County School District believes that effective instruction for intellectually gifted students is created in an environment that not only permits learners to interact with their intellectual peers but nurtures self-directed learning, flexibility, decision-making, thinking skills and divergent thinking. This environment nurtures both the cognitive (thinking) and affective (social and emotional) needs of the intellectually gifted learner and hopefully encourages them to become life-long, imaginative, autonomous learners.

### **MISSION**

The mission of the Noxubee County School District Intellectually Gifted Program is to offer differentiated learning experiences to meet the special needs of the intellectually gifted learner.

### **MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

The state of Mississippi defines "Gifted Education Programs (GEP)" as special programs of instruction for intellectually gifted children in grades 2-12, academically gifted children in grades 9-12, artistically gifted children in grades 2-12, and/or creatively gifted children in grades 2-12 in the public elementary and secondary schools of this state. Such programs shall be designed to meet the individual needs of gifted children and shall be in addition to and different from the regular program of instruction provided by the district. Currently the Noxubee County School District offers services for intellectually gifted children in the mandated grades 2-6.

"Intellectually gifted children" are those children and youth who are found to have an exceptionally high degree of intelligence as documented through the identification process. The needs of these students should be addressed based on the program options provided in the Outcomes for Intellectually Gifted Education Programs 2017.

### **Annual Reassessment for Continued Placement**

An annual reassessment will be done on each student in the GEP to determine each gifted student's continuation in the gifted program. The committee must include the teacher of the gifted and the program administrator.

### **Students**

- Gifted students in grades 2 - 6 may not be required to make up class work missed when they are scheduled to be in the gifted classroom. Homework assigned to the regular classroom students on the day of gifted class must be completed. Gifted students shall be held accountable for demonstration of mastery of concepts and information on regular scheduled tests.
- If a student is having trouble keeping up with regular classroom work, a conference will be held with the parent, the classroom teacher, the teacher of the gifted and the student, if necessary to develop a plan of action.
- Grades and/or success in the regular education program are the responsibility of the regular classroom teachers and should not be considered as a reason for removal from the gifted program.
- Withholding permission to attend gifted classes shall not be used as a disciplinary measure.
- Students may exit the GEP with written parent permission. Entrance back into the program will be determined by an administrator, teacher of the gifted and the parent. Exiting and re-entering the program will only be allowed once.
- At the written request of the parent/guardian, the student shall be able to re-enter the GEP at the beginning of the next nine weeks or school year. Exit and reinstatement documentation will be kept in the student's individual file. Written notification of the student's re-instatement will be forwarded to the site administrator and teachers of the student. Written parental permission must be obtained before the student can be re-admitted to the program.
- An annual reassessment of each student by the teacher of the gifted and program administrator will determine if the student remains in the gifted program.

### **Parents**

- A parent has the right to agree to placement or withhold placement in the GEP. Services will continue in the GEP unless a problem with placement arises or the parent(s) wishes for the child to be removed.
- A parent, who is not in agreement with the decision to remove a student from the GEP, or any other matter, may present their concerns orally or in writing to the gifted contact person/teacher and an attempt to resolve the matter informally will be taken.
- In the event the matter cannot be resolved, within five (5) school days of meeting with the gifted teacher, the parent can request a hearing by putting their concerns in writing and presenting the written request to the GEP Administrator. The GEP Administrator will schedule a hearing with members of the GEP Local Survey Committee (LSC) and a district administrator in a timeframe agreed upon by the parents and committee. The parent(s) will be extended an invitation to attend the hearing and the committee will render a written decision based on information shared during the meeting. The decision of the committee will be final and a copy of the decision will be mailed to the parent. Removal of the student from the GEP will be effective immediately.