

Long Beach School District

Gifted Education Program



Instructional Management Plan

This Instructional Management Plan was compiled and revised in accordance with Mississippi Gifted Education Standards and the 2006 Revised MDE Gifted Regulations, incorporating required process skill development and outcomes.

Revised based on 2007-08 Program Evaluation
Fall, 2008

Approved by the Long Beach School District Board of Trustees
June 23, 2008



Mission Statement

The mission of the Long Beach School District gifted program is to insure that intellectually gifted children, as defined by the Mississippi Department of Education, are offered appropriate educational experiences that are qualitatively different from those available in the regular classroom in order to provide opportunities for them to realize their abilities and potential.

MDE Definition

“Intellectually gifted children shall mean those children and youth who are found to have an exceptionally high degree of intelligence as documented through the identification process.

Philosophy

The Long Beach School District, in accordance with the Mississippi Department of Education’s regulations and standards for gifted education programs, is committed to identifying intellectually gifted students and providing a program of enrichment that addresses their unique talents, needs, and learning styles. Recognizing the intellectual, emotional, and social needs of gifted students; as well as their potential for creativity, higher-level thinking, independent learning, and leadership; the program addresses cognitive and affective needs with a curriculum that is qualitatively different from the regular classroom.

Goals and Objectives

- **To provide an equitable identification process for gifted students which is inclusive and meets requirements as outlined in state regulations.**
- **To provide a gifted learning environment that allows gifted students to interact with intellectual peers.**
- **To provide challenging, learning experiences that address the multiple talents, challenges, and cultural diversity of the district’s population.**
- **To provide a challenging, differentiated curriculum and teaching strategies that address the intellectual, cognitive, and affective characteristics of the gifted learner**
- **To focus on students’ interests, strengths, and learning styles in order to encourage a life-long love of learning.**
- **To provide opportunities for students to develop skills in creative and critical thinking, research, communication, creative and performing arts, leadership, career awareness, life-skills, self-directed learning, group dynamics, and self-evaluation.**

- With the assistance of school counselors, to provide differentiated guidance efforts to meet the social-emotional needs of gifted students including those who are underachieving, twice exceptional, and from diverse populations.
- To foster improvement of the gifted program through continued self evaluation and external review/audit.
- Provide additional opportunities for flexible grouping arrangements based on interests of the students.
- To provide specific training opportunities for counselors and teachers related to the characteristics, social-emotional needs, and differentiated curriculum needs of gifted students.
- To add to resource holdings and professional development materials related to unique needs and characteristics of gifted children for parents and teachers at each school site.
- To extend the gifted program beyond the sixth grade.
- To develop a website for the Long Beach School District gifted education program.
- To solicit evaluations from the community at large to assist us in evaluation of the gifted program.
- To provide a continuum of specialized counseling services for gifted at-risk students has been established as a goal for the 2009-10 school year.
- In cooperation with the Gulf Coast Association for Teachers of the Gifted, staff development sessions for the 2009-10 school year will focus on appropriate differentiated curriculum.
- Widely publicize information about meetings and programs offered for parents and gifted children.
- Develop a comprehensive student profile sheet to assist the examiners in selection of the most appropriate assessment instrument.



Artwork by Discovery Student, Mike Casey, 1997