

“Gifted learners need learning experiences that are rich. That is, they need learning experiences that are organized by key concepts and principles of a discipline rather than by facts. They need content that is relevant to their lives, activities that cause them to process important ideas at a high level, and products that cause them to grapple with meaningful problems and pose defensible solutions. They need classrooms that are respectful to them, provide both structure and choice, and help them achieve more than they thought they could. These are needs shared by all learners, not just those who are gifted. But good instruction for gifted learners must begin there.”

Carol Ann Tomlinson, Ed. D.
The University of Virginia

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PASS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED PROGRAM

**Pass Christian Elementary
Explore (2nd—5th)**

**DeLisle Elementary
Explore (2nd—5th)**

**Pass Christian Middle
Journey (6th)**



For more information, please visit www.pc.k12.ms.us.

INTRODUCTION

The Mississippi Gifted Education Act of 1989, as amended in 1993, mandates that each public school district within the state provide gifted education programs for intellectually gifted students in Grades 2–6.

The Pass Christian School District (PCSD) provides a state mandated program for intellectually gifted students in second through sixth grade in accordance with the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Guidelines:

- ◆ *Regulations for Gifted Education Programs 2013*
- ◆ *Standards for the Gifted Education Programs 2013*
- ◆ *Outcomes for Intellectually Gifted Education 2017*

The state of Mississippi defines Intellectually Gifted Children and Gifted Education Program as follows:

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.

Gifted Education Program shall mean a special program of instruction for intellectually gifted children. Such a program 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.

Gifted Children's Bill of Rights

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO

- know* about your giftedness.
- learn* something new everyday.
- be* passionate about your talent area without apologies.
- have* an identity beyond your talent area.
- feel* good about your accomplishments.
- make* mistakes.
- seek* guidance in the development of your talent.
- have* multiple peer groups and a variety of friends.
- choose* which of your talent areas you wish to pursue.
- not* to be gifted at everything.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Pass Christian School District Gifted Program is to provide a qualitatively differentiated educational program for gifted children based on their exceptional abilities, thereby enabling the gifted students to realize their potential contributions to self and society.

PHILOSOPHY

The Gifted Program, in keeping with the district's *Commitment to Excellence* and in accordance with the *Regulations for Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi* (2013), recognizes that gifted children require a qualitatively differentiated educational experience. Our district is dedicated to providing an educational enrichment program that addresses the unique talents, needs, and learning styles of gifted students. The Gifted Program strives to give students the opportunity to be fulfilled, productive, contributing citizens.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The Pass Christian School District Program for Gifted Students is designed to provide:

- ◆ an equitable identification process that is inclusive,
- ◆ an environment that encourages opportunities for gifted students to interact with intellectual peers,
- ◆ a qualitatively different program of instruction that addresses individual student strengths, interests, learning styles, and unique needs of gifted students,
- ◆ specialized training for gifted education teachers, counselors, and other personnel on appropriate instructional strategies, and the nature and needs of gifted students,
- ◆ differentiated guidance efforts for gifted students through the assistance of school counselors,
- ◆ an on-going and annual evaluation of each student's progress in the gifted program,
- ◆ an annual comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of the district's gifted program.

REFERRAL FOR GIFTED PROGRAM

A student may be referred by a parent, teachers, administrators, counselors, peers, self, or anyone else having a reason to believe that the student might be intellectually gifted.

- ◆ All 1st grade and 3rd grade students are screened.
- ◆ Referrals are based on characteristics of giftedness, intellectual and exceptional ability.
- ◆ Local Survey Committee (LSC) determines if further assessment is warranted.
- ◆ Parent permission for intelligence testing is obtained.
- ◆ An assessment report is compiled and completed.
- ◆ LSC determines eligibility for the intellectually gifted program.
- ◆ Parent receives written notification for placement in the gifted program.
- ◆ A student must score at or above the 91st percentile composite/full scale on approved intelligence tests.

GIFTED OUTCOMES

Gifted learning opportunities encompass the following Competencies:

Thinking Skills	Creativity
Information Literacy	Success Skills
Affective Skills	Communication Skills

COUNSELING

Pass Christian School District recognizes and nurtures the unique social and emotional development of gifted learners and offers counseling to all gifted students.

RESOURCES

A collection of informative Gifted resource books is located in the Gifted classrooms and available for check out by all interested individuals.