


Edmonds School District Highly Capable Program



Assessment and Selection Process

~ Kim Hunter, Director of K-12 Highly Capable Programs

Agenda

- The Highly Capable Student
- The Highly Capable Program Continuum
- The Assessment and Selection Process
- Important Dates and Deadlines
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Questions?

**The Highly
Capable Student**

Highly Capable or Gifted Student

Definition - Students Who Are Highly Capable

- Students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments. Outstanding abilities are seen within students' general intellectual aptitudes, specific academic abilities, and/or creative productivities within a specific domain.

WAC 392-170-035

Highly Capable or Gifted Student

Definition - Learning Characteristics

- Students who are highly capable may possess, but are not limited to, these learning characteristics:
 - Capacity to learn with unusual depth of understanding, to retain what has been learned, and to transfer learning to new situations;
 - Capacity and willingness to deal with increasing levels of abstraction and complexity earlier than their chronological peers;
 - Creative ability to make unusual connections among ideas and concepts;
 - Ability to learn quickly in their area(s) of intellectual strength; and
 - Capacity for intense concentration and/or focus.

The Highly Capable Program Continuum

Highly Capable Program Attributes

What it is...

- Different pace, complexity, and instruction with an emphasis on higher level thinking and problem solving skills.
- Curriculum is accelerated and taken deeper.
- Class size numbers are expected to be the same as general education classes.
- All types of students can be gifted, including those with special learning needs.

What it is not...

- A private school
- A self-paced program

Challenge Program at Terrace Park

- Grades 1 through 6
- Terrace Park becomes the students' new home school.
- Students are in classes with other gifted peers.
- Transportation is provided from many neighborhood schools to Terrace Park and back to the neighborhood school.
 - Students will not be able to ride the school bus between their home and neighborhood school and arrive in time to catch the bus to Terrace Park.
- School hours are 9:00 am to 3:30 pm
- Parent volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Highly Capable Middle School Program

- Grades 7 & 8
- Brier Terrace Middle School becomes the students' new home school.
- Students are with gifted peers in:
 - Science
 - English/Social Studies Block
- Students are placed in appropriate level math classes using the district placement process.
- Students have access to a variety of elective classes.
- Transportation is provided from many neighborhood schools to Brier Terrace Middle School and back to the neighborhood school.
 - Students will not be able to ride the school bus between their home and neighborhood school and arrive in time to catch the bus to Brier Terrace Middle School.

High School Options

- Grades 9 through 12
- Students select one of three accelerated options on entering 9th grade:
 - Accelerated options at the students' home high school:
 - Honors
 - Advanced Placement
 - College in High School
 - Running Start
 - STEM Magnet High School Program at Mountlake Terrace High School
 - International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Edmonds-Woodway High School

Important: No transportation is provided if a student chooses an option other than their neighborhood high school.

Current Bus Routes

Bus 34	
Pick Up	Drop Off
Lynnwood High School	52nd Ave W and 206th St SW
Oak Height Elementary	Lynnwood Elementary
Spruce Elementary	Spruce Elementary
Lynnwood Elementary	Oak Height Elementary
52nd Ave W and 206th St SW	Lynnwood High School

Current Bus Routes

Bus 35	
Pick Up	Drop Off
Hazelwood Elementary	Cedar Way Elementary
Damson Rd & 201st PL SW	35th Ave W & 232nd St SW
Crawford Rd & 202nd PL SW	Hilltop Elementary
35th Ave W & 232nd St SW	Hazelwood Elementary
Cedar Way Elementary	

Current Bus Routes

Bus 59	
Pick Up	Drop Off
Edmonds Elementary	Edmonds Heights K-12
College Place Elementary	Westgate Elementary
Sherwood Elementary	Chase Lake Elementary
Chase Lake Elementary	Sherwood Elementary
Westgate Elementary	Edmonds Elementary
Edmonds Heights K-12	College Place Elementary

Current Bus Routes

Bus 72	
Pick Up	Drop Off
Meadowdale Elementary	Seaview Elementary
Beverly Elementary	Maplewood Coop
Lynndale Elementary	Lynndale Elementary
Seaview Elementary	Meadowdale Elementary
Maplewood Coop	Beverly Elementary

The Assessment and Selection Process

Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test

- Used as the Universal 2nd Grade Screener this year
- Commonly used and accepted assessment for use in Highly Capable student identification
- Measures students' reasoning abilities
- Students scoring in the 87th percentile or higher are invited for full testing

The Cognitive Abilities Test Form 7 (CogAT)

- Commonly used and accepted assessment for use in Highly Capable student identification
- Measures students' learned reasoning abilities in the three areas most linked to academic success in school:
 - Verbal Reasoning
 - Quantitative Reasoning
 - Non Verbal Reasoning

Cognitive Abilities Test is published by Riverside Publishing for grades K-12, by David F. Lohman and Elizabeth P. Hagen. For more information, visit www.riversidepublishing.com

Characteristics of the CogAT

Grades K-2:

- Subtests are not timed
- Students complete questions on the Chromebook
 - Kindergarten students will do paper testing
- All parts of the test are read to the students

Grades 3-7:

- Subtests are timed
- Students complete questions on the Chromebook
- Students read all parts of the test themselves

Additional Information Used in Selection Process

Academic Assessments

- Grade 2 Fall Reading
- Grade 2 Math
- Grade 2 Spring Reading
- Prior Year ELA SBA
- Prior Year Math SBA
- Grade 5 Science WCAS

Other Information

- DIBELS
- Fall Sight Words
- Kindergarten Spring Comprehension
- Fall Independent Reading Levels
- Grade 1 Spring Comprehension
- Student Report Cards
- Referral Documents

Multi-Disciplinary Selection Committee

- Includes a classroom teacher, a gifted program teacher, a psychologist and or counselor, and a gifted administrator from the district
- Considers all information, including the application and other requested information in determining the most highly capable students
- Emphasis on a preponderance of evidence that the student is among the most highly capable and needs highly capable services

Edmonds General Qualification Criteria

CogAT Overall Composite SAS	CogAT Overall Composite National Percentile	MSC Determination
129 and above	97th and above	Probably Will Qualify as Most Highly Capable - Dependent on Other Evidence
126 to 128	95th to 96th	May Qualify as Most Highly Capable - Dependent on Other Evidence
125 and below	94th and below	Probably Will Not Qualify as Most Highly Capable - Dependent on Other Evidence

Important Dates and Deadlines

Referral for Assessment

How does the referral process work?

- Students must live in the Edmonds School District service area to be tested
- See age requirements for kindergarten and first graders
- A parent, guardian, teacher, community member may refer a student
- Referral must be complete and **MUST** be signed by the parent or guardian
- Attach the most recent report card (exception for current Kindergarteners)
- Referral forms are available in your school's main office or on the districts Highly Capable Program website

Referral for Assessment

Deadlines

- 2nd Grade Students Invited for Full Testing
 - Parent Referrals are due by 4:30 pm on November 8th, 2019
 - Teacher Referrals are due by 4:30 pm on December 20th, 2019
- K-8 Students using Saturday Testing
 - Parent Referrals are due by 4:30 pm on November 30th, 2019
 - Teacher Referrals are due by 4:30 pm on December 20th, 2019

Referral for Assessment

Mail:

Edmonds District, Highly Capable Office

20420 68th Ave W

Lynnwood, WA 98036

E-mail: cassb@edmonds.wednet.edu

Fax: 425-431-7089

Testing for 2020-2021 Placement:

Grades K-2

- Testing Referral Deadline - **November 30, 2019**
- K-2 Testing - Saturday, December 7th, 2019
 - Terrace Park School - Testing Starts Promptly
 - Current Grade K 8:30 - 11:45 am
 - Current 1st & 2nd 1:30 - 4:45 pm
 - Allow ample time for parking on street or in last two rows of Pavilion parking lot
 - Testing will take approximately 3 hours. Doors will remain locked until all classrooms have finished testing.
- **Make up testing due to illness on test day - must leave a message with the Highly Capable department by phone or email on the day of testing in order to be eligible for make up testing**
- Decision letters mailed out between January 30th to February 1st

Testing for 2020-2021 Placement:

Grades 3-8

- Testing Referral Deadline - **November 30, 2019**
- Current Grades 3-8 Testing - Saturday, December 14, 2019
 - Terrace Park School - Testing Starts Promptly
 - Current Grades 3-8 8:30 -11:30 am
 - Allow ample time for parking on street or in last two rows of Pavilion parking lot
 - Testing will take approximately 3 hours. Doors will remain locked until all classrooms have finished testing.
- **Make up testing due to illness on test day - must leave a message with the Highly Capable department by phone or email on the day of testing in order to be eligible for make up testing**
- Decision letters mailed out between January 30th to February 1st

Frequently Asked Questions

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Should My Student be Tested for the Highly Capable Programs?

- If you aren't sure, ask your student's current teacher for their opinion.
- Have any of your child's previous teachers talked to you about Challenge/Gifted testing?
- Try some practice problems - google CogAT Practice problems and have your student try some. (CogAT 7 - Level # is the age of the student)
- Testing requires 3 hours of focused concentration with minimal breaks for students. Please consider your student's strengths and maturity level especially for K-1st graders.
- If your student is happy, doing well, and thriving in school, they may be in just the right place to be successful already.

Frequently Asked Questions

My Student Doesn't Qualify? What Next?

- Students can take the CogAT test again another year, up to four times in grades K-8.
- If either of the following conditions apply, an Appeal may be submitted:
 - An extraordinary circumstance occurred during testing that may have negatively affected the validity of the test results (i.e., traumatic event or an illness preventing completion of the test)
Note: The Highly Capable office must be notified immediately on the day of testing of the extraordinary circumstance).
 - A misapplication or miscalculation of the assessment data due to an incorrect birthdate or grade level used in calculating the student's score.
- We will not accept outside testing or evaluations for placement or appeals.

Frequently Asked Questions

My Student Qualified for Challenge. What Next?

- Students who qualify for Challenge and their parents will be invited to a tour at Terrace Park Elementary to learn more about the school and curriculum. Date\Time TBD.

My Student Qualified for Gifted Middle Program at Brier Terrace. What Next?

- There will also be a parent/student meeting and tour at Brier Terrace Middle School. Date\Time TBD.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if my student qualifies and declines placement?

- If a student qualifies and declines placement in Challenge or the Gifted Middle School program, efforts will be made to meet the needs of your child at the local school, but gifted programs cannot be replicated in the general education classroom.
- If you ask for placement another year, you will need to submit a new referral and your child will need to test again during the winter testing cycle in the year prior to requested placement.

General Information

Check district website for questions or referral forms

- www.edmonds.wednet.edu, click on Programs, Highly Capable & Gifted Programs. Links to the referral form are found at the top of the Welcome page.
- We are unable to discuss specific individual student questions/concerns at this time. If you have questions or concerns about your student, call or email:
 - 425-431-7157
 - CassB@edmonds.wednet.edu

Questions?