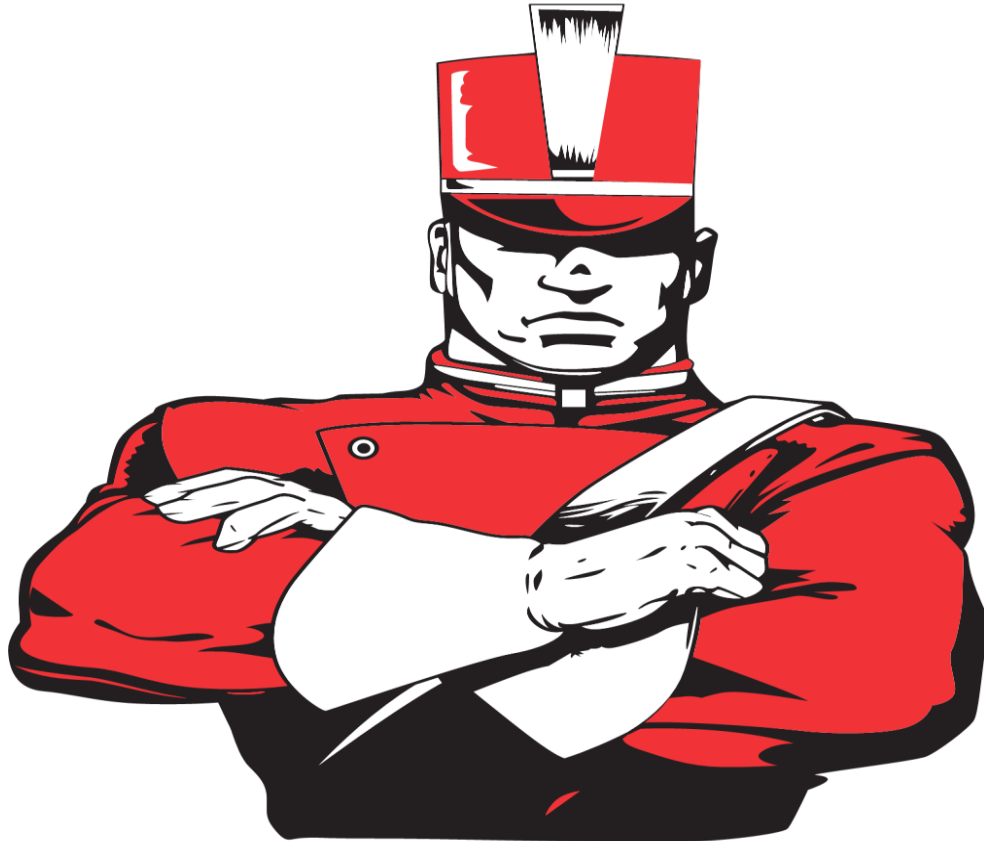


**Millcreek – West Unity Local School District**

**HOME of the HILLTOP CADETS**



***DISTRICT POLICY AND PLAN***

***IDENTIFICATION AND SERVICES  
FOR  
GIFTED STUDENTS***

**Information for Parents**

## **GIFTED IDENTIFICATION**

### **Definition**

"Gifted" means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment and who are identified under Section 3324.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.

### **How are children identified in Ohio?**

Ohio law requires each school district to identify gifted students K-12 in the following areas:

Superior Cognitive Ability	Creative Thinking Ability
Specific Academic Ability	Visual & Performing Art
Reading/Writing	Dance
Math	Drama
Science	Music (Instrumental and/or Choral)
Social Studies	Visual Arts

### **The Identification Steps:**

The **pre-assessment** part of the process involves gathering student data from a variety of sources including teacher, parent, and peer nominations, grades, portfolios, observations, review of student records, and outstanding products or performances.

The **screening step** examines the data gathered from the pre-assessment stage and determines if additional assessment is necessary. In making decisions about additional assessment, existing test data for students is not the sole determining criteria. Qualified school personnel examine all available information about a student to determine if evidence of possible giftedness exists for that student and conduct necessary additional assessment.

**Assessment strategies** provide additional data necessary for an identification decision and the delivery of services. Strategies for additional assessment include the individual and group testing requirements of Sections 3324.01-3324.07 of the Ohio Revised Code. Once qualified school personnel have completed the assessment, the data obtained throughout the stages of identification are evaluated, the identification decision is made and the student's educational needs are determined. Parents will be notified of testing results within 30 days of the district receiving the scores.

### **Equitable Testing Procedures and Special Populations**

The District does not discriminate and ensures fair and equitable testing of students for gifted identification in the screening and assessment processes. Instruments are selected that identify students from underrepresented populations, including minority, economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English learners.

### **General and Transfer Students**

The district accepts scores on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education provided by other school districts and/or trained personnel outside the school district. The district ensures that any child transferring into the district will be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the written request of the parent.

### **Parent Notification**

The District will inform parents or guardians when testing students to determine if they are gifted. When individual and/or small group testing occurs, parental permission to test will be obtained. The District will notify parents of test scores within 30 days of receiving results.

## TESTING for GIFTED IDENTIFICATION

State law requires districts to identify students who are gifted through referrals at all grade levels, and, whole-grade testing within two different grade bands. The District conducts assessments with tests approved by the Ohio Department of Education and ensures that selected tests are appropriate for students from under-represented populations.

### Testing Based on Referral

The District provides at least two opportunities per year for gifted identification testing in any or all areas when requested or recommended. Referral-based testing is completed within 90 days. Referral forms are available in each school office and the district website

### Whole-Grade Testing

To help ensure equity in and access to identification opportunities for all students, the District conducts whole-grade testing in two grade bands: K-2 and 3-6. This requirement applies to specific areas of identification. The District conducts whole-grade testing in Grades 2, 5, and 11. *[See chart, below]*

The chart provides an overview of assessment requirements by area of identification and grade level.

Summary of Requirements	Grades K-2	Grades 3-6	Grades 7-12
<b>Testing Based on Referral:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Superior Cognitive Ability</li> <li>Creative Thinking Ability</li> <li>Specific Academic Ability</li> </ul> Mathematics Reading/Writing Science Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual &amp; Performing Arts</li> </ul> Dance Drama Music Visual Arts	Yes, at all grade levels	Yes, at all grade levels	Yes, at all grade levels
<b>Whole-Grade Testing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Superior Cognitive Ability</li> <li>Creative Thinking Ability +</li> <li>Specific Academic Ability</li> </ul> Mathematics Reading/Writing Science Social Studies           + Creative Thinking checklists are completed when a student meets the required cognitive ability score.	Yes, at least once in this grade band. Grade 2  Hilltop Schools conduct whole grade testing for these areas in Grade 2: Superior Cognitive Ability Math Reading Creative Thinking	Yes, at least once in this grade band. Grade 5  Hilltop Schools conduct whole grade testing for these areas in Grade 5: Superior Cognitive Ability Math Reading/Writing Science Social Studies Creative Thinking	Testing is not required.  Hilltop Schools conduct whole grade testing for Mathematics, Science, and Reading/Writing in Grade 11.

**MILLCREEK – WEST UNITY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GIFTED TESTING PLAN**

<b>INTELLEGEENCE TESTS for SUPERIOR COGNITIVE ABILITY IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Cognitive Abilities Test Form 7 (CogAT-7)</b>			
<b>VQN Composite</b>	Grades: K-1	120	127
	Grades: 2-12	120	128
<b>QN Composite</b> <i>English learners and students with serious reading disabilities, only</i>	Grades: 3-12	120	128
<b>VN Composite</b> <i>Students with mathematical learning disabilities, only</i>	Grade: K	120	126
	Grades: 1	120	127
	Grades: 2-4	120	128
	Grade: 5	120	127
	Grades: 6-7	120	128
	Grades: 8-11	120	127
	Grade: 12	120	128
<b>Differential Ability Scales, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition</b>	Ages: 2.6-17.11	120	126
<b>Naglieri Nonverbal Test – Individual Admin.</b>	Ages: 5-11	120	125
<b>Naglieri Nonverbal Test – Individual Admin.</b>	Ages: 12-17	120	126
<b>Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (WAIS-IV)</b>	Ages: 16-90.11	120	127
<b>Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (WISC-V) Full Scale IQ</b>	Ages: 6-16	120	127
<b>Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (WISC-V) General Ability Index</b>	Ages: 6-16	120	127

<b>ACHIEVEMENT ASSESSMENTS for SUPERIOR COGNITIVE ABILITY IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Iowa Assessments, Form E Complete Battery</b>	Grades: K-12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile

**MILLCREEK – WEST UNITY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GIFTED TESTING PLAN**

<b>ACHIEVEMENT ASSESSMENTS for SPECIFIC ACADEMIC ABILITY IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>ACT Assessment Program (AAP)</b>	Grades: 6-12		
<b>Iowa Assessments, Form E Complete Battery</b>	Grades: K-12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Iowa Assessments, Form E Core Battery (Reading and Math, only)</b>	Grades: 1-12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Kaufman Tests of Educational Achievement 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, (KTEA-III)</b>	Age 4.5 - Grade 12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>SAT Test</b>	Grades: 6-12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Terra Nova, Third Edition Complete Battery</b>	Grades: K-12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Terra Nova, Third Edition Multiple Assessments</b>	Grades: 1-12	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Wechsler Individual Achievement Test 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, (WIAT)</b>	Ages: 4-85	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> percentile

<b>Above-Grade Assessments</b>	<b>Identification Area</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>Grade 9</b>
<b>ACT</b>	Reading/Writing	English Subscore: 17	English Subscore: 19	English Subscore: 20	English Subscore: 24
<b>ACT</b>	Reading/Writing	Reading Subscore: 17	Reading Subscore: 19	Reading Subscore: 20	Reading Subscore: 25
<b>ACT</b>	Mathematics	Math Subscore: 17	Math Subscore: 18	Math Subscore: 21	Math Subscore: 24
<b>ACT</b>	Science	Science Subscore: 17	Science Subscore: 19	Science Subscore: 20	Science Subscore: 24

**MILLCREEK – WEST UNITY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GIFTED TESTING PLAN**

<b>INTELLIGENCE TESTS for CREATIVE THINKING ABILITY IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Cognitive Abilities Test Form 7 (CogAT-7)</b>			
<b>VQN Composite</b>	Grades: K-1	110	111
	Grades: 2-12	110	112
<b>QN Composite</b> <i>English learners and students with serious reading disabilities, only</i>	Grades: 3-12	110	112
<b>VN Composite</b> <i>Students with mathematical learning disabilities, only</i>	Grade: K	109	110
	Grade: 1	110	111
	Grades: 2-4	110	112
	Grade: 5	110	111
	Grades: 6-7	110	112
	Grades: 8-11	110	111
	Grade: 12	110	112
<b>Differential Ability Scales, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition</b>	Ages: 2.6-17.11	110	111
<b>Naglieri Nonverbal Test – Individual Admin.</b>	Ages: 5-11	109	110
<b>Naglieri Nonverbal Test – Individual Admin.</b>	Ages: 12-17	110	111
<b>Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (WAIS-IV)</b>	Ages: 16-90.11	110	112
<b>Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (WISC-V) Full Scale IQ</b>	Ages: 6-16	110	112
<b>Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (WISC-V) General Ability Index</b> <i>Where appropriate per publisher's instructions</i>	Ages: 6-16	110	112

<b>BEHAVIORAL CHECKLISTS and RATING SCALES for CREATIVE THINKING ABILITY IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales 2 (GATES 2) Creative Thinking Section, Questions 21-30</b>	Ages: 5-18	Standard Score 90-110	Standard Score 111
<b>Scales for Rating the Behavior Characteristics of Superior Students (SRBCSS) – Part II Creativity</b>	Grades: K-12	48-50	51

**MILLCREEK – WEST UNITY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GIFTED TESTING PLAN**

<b>PERFORMANCE RUBRICS and SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: DANCE</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Ohio Department of Education Rubric</b>	Grades: K-12	20-25	26-30

<b>PERFORMANCE RUBRICS and SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: DRAMA</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Ohio Department of Education Rubric</b>	Grades: K-12	16-19	20-24

<b>PERFORMANCE RUBRICS and SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: MUSIC</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Ohio Department of Education Rubric</b>	Ages: 4-13.11	14-17	18-21

<b>PERFORMANCE RUBRICS and SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: VISUAL ARTS</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Art Advanced Placement Scoring Guidelines</b>	See Publisher's Instructions	4	5
<b>Ohio Department of Education Rubric</b>	Grades: K-12	20-25	26-30

**MILLCREEK – WEST UNITY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GIFTED TESTING PLAN**

<b>BEHAVIORAL CHECKLISTS and RATING SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: DANCE</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales 2 (GATES 2) Artistic Talent Section, Questions 41-50</b>	Ages: 5-18	Standard Score of 90-110	Standard Score of 111

<b>BEHAVIOR CHECKLISTS and RATING SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: DRAMA</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales 2 (GATES 2) Artistic Talent Section, Questions 41-50</b>	Ages: 5-18	Standard Score 90-110	Standard Score 111
<b>Scales for Rating the Behavior Characteristics of Superior Students (SRBCSS) Part VII</b>	Grades: K-12	54-56	57

<b>BEHAVIOR CHECKLISTS and RATING SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: MUSIC</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales 2 (GATES 2) Artistic Talent Section, Questions 41-50</b>	Ages: 5-18	60-65	66
<b>Scales for Rating the Behavior Characteristics of Superior Students (SRBCSS) Part VI</b>	Grades: K-12	37-38	39

<b>BEHAVIOR CHECKLISTS and RATING SCALES for VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS ABILITY IDENTIFICATION: VISUAL ARTS</b>	<b>Grade Levels Ages</b>	<b>SCORE for REASSESSMENT</b>	<b>SCORE for IDENTIFICATION</b>
<b>Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales 2 (GATES 2) Artistic Talent Section, Questions 41-50</b>	Ages: 5-18	Standard Score 90-110	Standard Score 111
<b>Scales for Rating the Behavior Characteristics of Superior Students (SRBCSS) Part V</b>	Grades: K-12	59-60	61



## Identification Criteria

A student shall be identified as exhibiting "**superior cognitive ability**" if the student did either of the following within the preceding 24 months:

- Scored two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved individual standardized intelligence test administered by a licensed psychologist;
- Scored at least two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved standardized group intelligence test;
- Performed at or above the 95% percentile on an approved individual or group standardized basic or composite battery of a nationally-normed achievement test;
- Attained an approved score on one or more above-grade level standardized nationally-normed approved tests.

A student shall be identified as exhibiting "**specific academic ability**" superior to that of children of similar age in a specific academic ability field, if, within the preceding 24 months, the student performs at or above the 95% percentile at the national level on an approved individual or group standardized achievement test of specific academic ability in that field. A student may be identified as gifted in more than one specific academic ability field.

A student shall be identified as exhibiting "**creative thinking ability**" superior to children of a similar age, if within the previous 24 months, the student scored one standard deviation above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved individual or group intelligence test, and, also did either of the following:

- Attained a sufficient score, as established by the Ohio Department of Education, on an approved individual or group test of creative ability;
- Established sufficient performance, as established by the Ohio Department of Education, on an approved checklist of creative behaviors.

A student shall be identified as exhibiting "**visual or performing arts ability**" superior to that of children of similar age, if the student has done both of the following:

- Demonstrated through a display of work, an audition, or other performance or exhibition, superior ability in a visual or performing arts area;
- Exhibited sufficient performance, as established by the Ohio Department of Education, on an approved checklist of behaviors related to a specific arts area.

## APPEAL PROCEDURE

Parents have an opportunity to appeal any decision about the results of any screening procedure or the scheduling of children for assessment, or the placement of a student in any program for the receipt of services. An appeal by the parent is the reconsideration of the results of any part of the identification process that would include;

- Screening procedures or assessment instrument (which results in identification);
- The scheduling of children for assessment;
- The placement of a student in any program; and
- Receipt of services.

Parents should submit a letter to the superintendent or building administrator outlining the nature of the concern. The superintendent or building administrator will convene a meeting with the parent/guardian, and may include other school personnel. The superintendent or building administrator will issue a written final decision within 30 days of the appeal. This written notice will include the reason for the decision(s).

## **GIFTED EDUCATION SERVICES**

Millcreek - West Unity Local School District ensures equal opportunity for all students identified as gifted to receive services offered by the district. Students are eligible for gifted services based on identification from Ohio Department of Education approved instruments in cognitive, specific academic, creative thinking ability, and/or the visual and performing arts.

### **Continuum of Services**

Students who are gifted need differentiated curriculum, instruction, and support services to fully develop and excel in their cognitive, academic, creative, and artistic abilities. This includes opportunities to exceed grade-level academic indicators and benchmarks. The District is committed to providing a continuum of services to meet the educational and social/emotional needs of the students.

### **Criteria for Services**

The District does not discriminate and has established fair and equitable criteria for gifted education services. Students who are identified as gifted under Section 3324.03 of the Ohio Revised Code qualify for and have access to gifted services offered by The District.

### **Parent Notification and Gifted Education Services**

The District notifies parents regarding available gifted education services, service criteria, placement decision, and the appeals process. The District also sends a letter to the parents or guardians informing them when gifted education services are not available to students identified as gifted.

**Gifted Education Services are provided by Millcreek - West Unity Local School District through the following educational delivery options:**

#### **Services Provided by a General Education Teacher**

- Acceleration
- Advanced Placement Classroom
- Cluster Group Classroom
- College Credit Plus
- Differentiated Curriculum
- Honors Classroom
- Independent Study
- Mentorships
- Services Provided by a Trained Arts Instructor
- Other options outlined in rules adopted by the Ohio Department of Education

#### **ACCELERATION [Board of Education Policy 5409]**

Four types of acceleration are available to qualified students and may be considered gifted education service for some students with gifted identifications.

1. Early entrance to Kindergarten/School [BOE Policy 5112]
2. Subject acceleration [BOE Policy 5410]
3. Whole-grade acceleration [BOE Policy 5410]
4. Early graduation from high school (for the purpose of attending college) [BOE Policy 5464]

### **WITHDRAWAL**

If at any time a student wishes to withdraw from gifted programs or services, the parent or child should write the request to the building administrator. If children request to withdraw, parents will be notified. In each case, a conference will be scheduled to finalize the withdrawal process.

**2018-19 Millcreek - West Unity Local School District Gifted Education Services**

<b>Grade Level(s)</b>	<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Teacher or Course</b>	<b>Identification Area(s)</b>
K-1	Reading/ELA	Regular Classroom	Reading Service is not reported
K-3	Mathematics	Regular Classroom	Math Service is not reported
2-5	Reading/ELA	Regular Classroom	Superior Cognitive Ability, Reading/Writing, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
4-5	Mathematics	Regular Classroom	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
6	Mathematics	Advanced Math Gr. 6	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
8	Reading/ELA and/or Social Studies	Spanish 8	Superior Cognitive Ability, Reading/Writing, Social Studies, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
7	Mathematics	Pre-Algebra	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
8	Mathematics	Algebra I	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
9	Mathematics	Geometry	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
10	Mathematics	Algebra II	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
11-12	Mathematics	Advanced Math and/or Financial Algebra	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, and/or Creative Thinking Ability
9-12	All Subjects [varies]	College Credit Plus [courses vary]	Superior Cognitive Ability, Math, Reading/Writing, Science, Social Studies, Creative Thinking Ability, and/or Visual & Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts) VARIES

Gifted education services may be expanded as the district outlines a continuum of educational opportunities to best serve the needs of our students, while aligning gifted professional development to the needs of our district and staff.

## **WRITTEN EDUCATION PLANS**

All students receiving gifted services have a Written Education Plan (WEP) that meets the Ohio Department of Education requirements. WEPs are developed in collaboration with an educator who has a license or endorsement in gifted education. Each WEP provides a description of the services to be provided for individual students including goals in each service specified, including, but not limited to, academic and affective goals, methods for evaluating progress toward achieving the specified goals, and methods and schedule for reporting progress to students. Each WEP specifies staff members responsible for ensuring that specified services are delivered. These staff members have gifted licensure/endorsement or have completed 30 hours of gifted professional development. The Written Education Plans (WEP) specifies policies regarding the waiver of assignments and the scheduling of tests missed while participating in any gifted services provided outside the general education classroom and include a date by which the WEP will be reviewed for possible revision. A WEP will be provided to parents of all served students. Parental signature attesting to having received a copy of the WEP is desired.

### **Professional Development Requirements in Gifted Education**

Educators designated to provide gifted education services require specialized training in gifted education, as well as ongoing support to meet the academic and affective needs of gifted students. General education teachers who are designated as gifted service providers and do not hold licenses or endorsements in gifted education will receive professional development in gifted education. This professional development, from qualified providers, covers a specific number of clock hours in the eight competencies: Differentiated Instruction, Differentiated Strategies, Differentiated Curriculum, Assessments, Social/Emotional, Data, Underrepresented Populations, and Written Education Plans.

***The Mission of Millcreek - West Unity Local School District  
is to provide an appropriate educational program and learning environment  
which will effectively meet the educational needs of its students and citizens  
and help its students accomplish educational goals which are  
significant, durable, and transferable.***

**Millcreek – West Unity Local School District**

<http://www.hilltop.k12.oh.us>

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*Board of Education policies may be accessed by using the "OUR SCHOOLS" tab on the Millcreek - West Unity School District home page at [www.hilltop.k12.oh.us](http://www.hilltop.k12.oh.us) and scrolling down to "NEOLA Board Policy"*

*UPDATED 03/19/2019*