

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS**

RSU #13 will provide gifted and/or talented learners with varied programs that challenge and motivate him/her to reach his/her fullest potential. RSU #13 will maintain a program in Gifted and Talented Education that is fully approved on an annual basis by the Maine Department of Education. The Gifted and Talented Program Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis by the RSU #13 Board of Directors. Should the Gifted and Talented Program fail to be approved, it will be discontinued until such time as it has been approved by the Maine Department of Education. The Board directs the Superintendent, or his/her designee to develop and implement appropriate programs in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Adopted: 6/4/15

\*This policy supersedes previous policy IHBB adopted 9/2/2010

Legal Reference; 20-A MRSA 4703; 8101 et seq.

Maine Department of Education Rule Chapter 104

## **PROCEDURES: GIFTED AND TALENTED IDENTIFICATION**

### **Academic Identification**

The annual process of identifying students who are academically gifted begins in the spring of fourth grade.

1. The test scores of all fourth grade students in RSU 13 are screened and a list is generated of all students with scores in either language or mathematics academic areas above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile.
2. With parental permission, students on this list will be administered a test of ability.
3. If the ability test is above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile, parents and classroom teacher are asked for a recommendation regarding G/T identification.

Up to 5% of students can be identified as academically gifted. Identifications are finalized in a meeting with the G/T teacher, Principal, and representatives of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. If a child is identified as G/T, the G/T teacher leads the process specified in Policy 3.08 to develop an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) prior to the end of the school year for implementation in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Parents can make the decision to not allow their students to participate in the G/T program.

Parents of students who are not identified can appeal the decision to the Director of Special Programs in writing, stating the basis for consideration of additional evidence. The Principal, G/T teacher, and Director of Special Programs will meet with the parents and determine whether additional information will be considered. The decision of the Director of Special Programs shall be final in any parent appeal.

Students moving into RSU 13 after grade 4 will be assessed based on comparable test data from the previous school and on whether they had been identified as G/T in the previous school. G/T identification can be reviewed as part of the annual ILP meeting and shall be reviewed in grade 8.

Approved: 6/4/15