

OUR VISION

The vision of Fargo Public Schools Gifted Services is to challenge the intellect and maximize the potential of the gifted and talented learner through high quality collaborative services.

OUR VALUES

Below is a list of values from the Fargo Public Schools *Strategic Plan* that have special meaning for the high ability learner.

- Believing that all students can learn and grow
- Creating a supportive and positive school climate.
- Ensuring that all students receive effective, rigorous, and relevant instruction from highly qualified teachers
- Engaging leadership in all student, parent and community partnerships
- Making data-driven decisions for continuous improvement

For More Information

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Fargo Public Schools GIFTED SERVICES

The mission of Fargo Public Schools Gifted Services is to maximize high ability student achievement.

GIFTED SERVICES

Following is a menu and description of our gifted services. Since it is our mission to raise high ability student achievement, it is critical that an appropriate match is made between the child and the service.

Each service is based on sound educational research. Using a team approach and criteria, the referral process is used to make decisions about a student's need for a service.

Cluster Grouping

The practice of identifying a small group of academically talented or intellectually gifted students at a grade level and placing them in the same classroom with a teacher trained to differentiate curriculum and instruction.

Grade Skipping

Cutting a full year from the usual number of years typically required to progress from kindergarten to high school graduation.

Early Entrance

The practice of admitting a child to school at an age earlier than usually allowed by the district.

GIFTED SERVICES

Curriculum Compacting

Streamlining the regular curriculum to "buy time" for enrichment, accelerated content, or independent study.

Subject Acceleration

Allowing students to move more quickly through the progression of skills and content mastery in one subject where great advancement or proficiency has been observed.

Enrichment Clusters

Grouping children for a specified period of time each day or week to work with a trained specialist on differentiated curriculum.

Independent Study

Structured projects agreed upon by student and teacher that allow a student to individually investigate an area of high interest to advance knowledge.

REFERRAL PROCESS

Fargo Public Schools uses a team process for identifying, matching, and delivering an appropriate gifted service to our students.

1. Anyone may initiate the referral process by communicating a need to the gifted services teacher, classroom teacher, or principal.
2. Data is collected and a meeting will be held with appropriate staff and parents in attendance. This team determines if services are needed.
3. The team assesses the child's needs and may recommend matching the child to a gifted service. The service may be applied in and/or out of the classroom setting.
4. All students receiving a formal service will have an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP).
5. The child's progress is reviewed each year to determine if the service is still an appropriate match. If the service continues to be needed, the child's ILP is renewed.

Within the resources that we can bring to bear, we should never settle for less than the most appropriate experiences to meet the educational needs and develop the talent of the high potential child. Gifted children who are appropriately stimulated and challenged are more likely to stay motivated to learn throughout their entire lives.

~Karen Rogers