

Central CUSD 301 *CHALLENGE* Program

Servicing the Academically Talented Students
of Central District 301

Eligibility Process

Final Updated: 5/12/2009

Elementary CHALLENGE Program

Students in grades 3-5 will be evaluated to determine eligibility for an accelerated math class in place of the core math class. It is the expectation that classroom teachers be notified of CHALLENGE students through the data team meetings. Teachers should provide differentiated instruction in all other core subjects.

Eligibility – Students must meet both of the following requirements:

MAP

Student must perform in the gifted range on the Math **MAP** (Measure of Academic Progress) test on two of the three most recent testing sessions.

CogAT

Student must receive a score of 120 or higher on the Quantitative or Non-Verbal portion of the **CogAT** (Cognitive Ability Test), administered in the fall of 3rd grade.

Note: A score of 145 or higher on the Quantitative or Non-Verbal on a cognitive ability test automatically qualifies the student.

Procedural Guidelines for Elementary Eligibility

- K-2 classroom teachers will complete the *Classroom Observation Profile for Recognizing High Ability Students*. CHALLENGE Resource teachers will manage the collection of these profiles. The profile may be referred to during the initial eligibility process in third grade.
- All 2nd graders will be administered the TOMAGS in the spring by the CHALLENGE Resource Teachers. CHALLENGE Resource Teachers will score the tests.
- All 2nd graders will be administered the MAP Survey with Goals Math and Reading test during the winter and spring testing windows for the 2008-2009 school year. Beginning in 2009, 2nd graders will be administered the MAP during the fall and spring windows..
- All 3rd graders will be administered the CogAT (Level A) in the fall.
- All 3rd graders will be administered the MAP Survey with Goals Math and Reading test during the fall testing window.
- 3rd Graders will be identified after all testing is completed in the fall of 3rd grade. CHALLENGE Math classes will begin the second quarter of 3rd grade.
- Once students are identified, they will remain in the CHALLENGE Math program through 5th grade.

Reconsideration Eligibility Process

- Students in 4th and 5th who were not identified in 3rd grade, but are demonstrating gifted attributes may be considered for the program.
- Each reconsideration request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. A parent or school district staff member may request to have a student reconsidered for eligibility.
- CHALLENGE Resource teacher will meet with classroom teacher to complete the *Rating Scale for High Ability Students*. The CHALLENGE Resource teacher will observe the student in various academic settings.

Based on the rating scale and observations, the CHALLENGE Resource Teacher, along with the Principal, will decide if reconsideration is appropriate. If so, the following formula will be applied:

Reconsideration Eligibility - Students must meet 2 of the 3 following requirements:

ISAT - MATH

Student must perform in the 'exceeds' range on the Math ISAT, administered in the spring of 3rd or 4th grade.

MAP-Math

Student must perform in the gifted range on the Math **MAP** (Measure of Academic Progress) test, on two of the three most recent testing sessions.

Cognitive Ability Test

Student must receive a score of 120 or higher on the Quantitative or Non-Verbal portion of the **CogAT** (Cognitive Ability Test).

Note: A score of 145 on the Quantitative or Non-Verbal portion of on a cognitive ability test automatically qualifies the student.

New Student Eligibility Process

- Students in 3rd through 5th who are new to the district and demonstrate gifted attributes, or were enrolled in a gifted program in previous district, may be considered for the program.
- Each request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. A parent or school district staff member may request to have a student considered for eligibility.
- CHALLENGE Resource teacher will meet with classroom teacher to complete the *Rating Scale for High Ability Students*. The CHALLENGE Resource teacher will observe the student in various academic settings.
- Based on the rating scale and observations, the CHALLENGE Resource Teacher, along with the Principal, will decide if consideration is appropriate. If so, the following formula will be applied:

Consideration Eligibility – Students must meet 2 of following requirements:

ISAT Math – Exceeds range	Cognitive Ability (CogAT, OLSAT, WISC, etc.) – Score 120 or higher
MAP Math – Gifted range	Other Achievement Scores – 95% or higher

Middle School CHALLENGE Program

Students in grades 6-8 will be evaluated to determine placement in a CHALLENGE cluster class for literature, English, science, social studies and an accelerated math class. It is the expectation that classroom teachers be notified of CHALLENGE students through the data team meetings. Teachers should provide differentiated instruction in all core subjects.

Literature **(Must meet 2 of 3)**

MAP Reading – Gifted Range on two of the three most recent testing sessions.
5th ISAT Reading – Exceeds Range
CogAT 5th Grade– 120 or higher on Verbal

Science **(Must meet 2 of 3)**

MAP Math – Gifted Range on two of the three most recent testing sessions.
4th ISAT Science – Exceeds Range
CogAT 5th Grade– 120 or higher on Non-Verbal or Quantitative

Math **(Must meet 2 of 3)**

MAP Math – Gifted Range on two of the three most recent testing sessions.
5th ISAT Math – Exceeds Range
CogAT 5th Grade– 120 or higher on Non-Verbal or Quantitative

English **(Must meet 2 of 3)**

MAP Language Usage – Gifted Range on one of the two most recent testing sessions.
5th ISAT Writing – Exceeds Range
CogAT 5th Grade – 120 or higher on Verbal

Social Studies **(Must meet 2 of 3)**

MAP Reading – Gifted Range on two of the three most recent testing sessions.
5th ISAT Reading – Gifted Range
CogAT 5th Grade– 120 or higher on Verbal

Procedural Guidelines for Middle School Eligibility

- A transition data meeting between the 5th and 6th grade teams will be scheduled after the Spring MAP test had been administered to determine eligibility.
- All 5th graders will be administered the MAP Survey with Goals Math, Reading and Language Usage test during the spring testing windows.
- All 5th graders will be administered the CogAT in October (Level C).
- Once students are identified for a CHALLENGE cluster, they will remain in the program through 8th grade.

New Student and Reconsideration Eligibility Process

- Students in 6th through 8th grade who were not identified prior to 6th grade or are new to the district and demonstrate gifted attributes or were enrolled in a gifted program in previous district, may be considered for the program.
- Each consideration request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. A parent or school district staff member may request to have a student reconsidered for eligibility.
- CHALLENGE Resource teacher will meet with classroom teachers to complete the *Rating Scale for High Ability Students*. The CHALLENGE Resource teacher will observe the student in various academic settings during the student's first quarter in attendance.
- Based on the rating scale and observations, the CHALLENGE Resource Teacher, along with the Principal, will decide if consideration is appropriate. If so, the following formula will be applied:

Consideration Eligibility – Students must meet 2 of following requirements:

ISAT Math, Reading, Writing, Science – Exceeds range

MAP Math, Reading, and Language Usage – Gifted range

Other Achievement Scores – 95% or higher

Cognitive Ability (CogAT, OLSAT, WISC, etc.) – Score 120 or higher

Role of CHALLENGE Resource Teacher at the Elementary Grades

- **Identify students for CHALLENGE Program**
- **Grades 3-5 – Teach CHALLENGE Math Class**
- **Analyze student achievement data to alert teachers to the CHALLENGE and 'bubble' students**
- **Provide intervention services for those students who are significantly performing above grade level curriculum expectations. Students will be identified through the RtI model facilitated by the building principal during data meetings. The amount of intervention time and grade levels being serviced will be determined by the principal.**
- **Serve as a resource to teachers and parents in the area of Challenge students**
- **During the Back-to-School Night, provide an overview of the program to parents of Challenge students.**

District 301 CHALLENGE Program

All current students enrolled in the Challenge Math Program will remain until the end of 5th grade and at that time they will be re-evaluated with the new process for eligibility in middle school. All current middle school Challenge students will remain in the program through 8th grade.