INDICATORS OF GIFTEDNESS

Observation of Student

Indicator of a student's need for differentiation based on his/her observable behavior. This may be shown through the student's abilities in the following areas:

- Communication – Highly expressive and effective use of words, numbers and symbols
- Motivation – Evidence of desire to learn
- Humor – conveys and picks up on humor
- Inquiry – Questions, experiments, explores
- Insight – Quickly grasps new concepts and makes connections, senses deeper meanings
- Interests – Intense (sometimes unusual) interests
- Problem solving – Effective, often inventive, strategies for recognizing and solving problems
- Memory – Large storehouse of information on school or non-school topics
- Reasoning – Logical approaches to figuring out solutions
- Imagination/Creativity – Produces many highly original ideas

Student Performance

Indicator of a student's demonstrated mastery: This may be shown through work samples, portfolios, grades, or other authentic assessment strategies. In some cases, performance may be demonstrated outside the school arena.

Student Performance

Indicator of a student's knowledge: This may be shown through standardized test scores or and End of Grade/End of Course test score. Achievement may also be reflected on criterion-referenced tests.

Student Interest

Indicator of a student's focus area and/or curiosity: This may be shown through a formal interest inventory/survey, an informal interview, or documentation of a student's particular passion. Interest may also be demonstrated through student's participation in extra-curricular activities.

Student Motivation to Learn

Indicator of a student's commitment to pursue learning experiences: This may be shown through school and/or outside of school activities. With some students this area may be muted by unfavorable environmental or experimental circumstances. For these students who have often been called "underachievers" an individual case study may be important to reflect the student's specific areas of need.