Gifted and Talented Pupils

Mastery recognizes its ability to identify gifted and talented students within the school and to provide these students with appropriate instructional adaptations and services. To that end, Mastery directs each such student in the school to be identified and offered appropriate educational programs and services.

For purposes of this Policy, “gifted and talented students” means students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability in one or more content areas when compared to their chronological peers in the district and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities

Mastery utilizes a systemic screening process to identify students for a Gifted and Talented program that include multiple measures. The screening process includes the use of Standardized Reading and Math assessments, teacher input, parent input. Multiple measures may include achievement test scores, grades, student performance or products, intelligence test and other appropriate measures. Once a student is suspected as qualifying for Gifted services, the school will evaluate the student. The assessment will include a variety of formal and informal assessments, including those that review a student’s aptitude and achievement, and includes parent input to determine each student’s individual needs. A multi-disciplinary team will meet and create specially designed instruction that is based on the gifted student’s needs and abilities.

The Educational program offered to students in a gifted and talented program may include pull out programs, differentiated instruction, acceleration, flexible pacing, advanced classes, or individual programs infused in the student's regular instructional program, provided that a written description of the infusion has been prepared and filed in the student's record.

Programs for gifted and talented students will be periodically evaluated for their continuing efficacy and adjusted accordingly. The parent of any student identified as gifted or talented shall be consulted regarding any program designed to address the student’s particular needs.

At any time the parent can also file a grievance. The procedure is stated below.

**Grievance Procedure**

The grievance procedure, described below, is available to parents/guardians or students who are dissatisfied with an action of a Mastery employee or school policy.

**1. Address the issue directly to the party concerned.**

**2.** If the matter is not resolved, address the concern to the School Leader. The School Leader will direct academic issues to the Assistant School Leader of Instruction or Specialized Services and disciplinary issues to the Assistant School Leader of School Culture. The School Leader is the final decision maker regarding concerns or grievances related to the grading of individual assignments.

**3.** If the matter is still not resolved, the concern can be addressed to the Regional Schools Officer. Depending on the nature of the matter, the Regional Schools Officer may ask the Executive Chief of Schools to decide the matter. The Regional Schools Officer will respond within ten (10) school days.

**4.** If the matter is still not resolved, the concern can be addressed to the CEO. The CEO will respond within ten (10) school days.