

How Is My Child Evaluated In LEAP?

LEAP teachers will evaluate students through assessments, rubrics, and observation geared specifically for the learning activity. Students will also learn to evaluate themselves on their effort and quality of each project or assignment completed in class.

In addition, parent conferences and group meetings will be scheduled twice a year and/or as needed. During this time, parents, the student, and the LEAP teacher will discuss the student's Written Education Plan (WEP). The student's home school teacher will also be a part of the WEP process. Quarterly progress reports will be sent home with the regular grade card. Modifications will be made to goals as needed. Students at the junior high school will receive a letter grade for the gifted class.

Parents are encouraged to contact the LEAP teachers to discuss student progress, ask questions, or to present any concerns they might have. The teacher contact information is located on the back of this brochure.

EDUCATIONAL
SERVICE CENTER
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How can I get further information about the LEAP Program?

Further information about LEAP is available by contacting one of the following:

Katie Spenthoff

Director of Curriculum & Instruction
419-473-8230

Kimberly Kovin

Coordinator, Gifted Services
419-473-8246

Brenda Gift

Supervisor of Special Services
Educational Service Center LEW
419-246-3120

Washington Local Schools

Elementary Program (LEAP)

Gifted Intervention Specialists

Jackie Burkey

Jennifer Thomas

419-473-8263

Junior High Program

Gifted Intervention Specialists

Rose Bruno

Heather Townley

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Gifted Services Department

3505 W. Lincolnshire Blvd.

Toledo, OH 43606



LEAP WHAT IS IT?



Learning
Experiences
Activities
Projects

WASHINGTON LOCAL LEAP

Gifted Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Washington Local Schools LEAP (Learning, Experiences, Activities, Projects) is to:

- Facilitate the development of the gifted child by addressing his/her unique needs both academically, socially and emotionally.
- Enhance the academic achievement and motivation of gifted students by engaging them in an academically enriched and accelerated curriculum structured to meet their needs.
- Give the gifted students the necessary tools to help them understand and use effective problem solving and decision making strategies to prepare them for a meaningful participation in future endeavors and a global society.
- Allow them the opportunity to interact and learn from their academically and socially similar peers.

What happens in LEAP?

Qualifying third through sixth grade students are invited to participate in LEAP. These students spend one full day per week in the LEAP class. Instruction is provided by a teacher certified in gifted education. The curriculum is based on current educational research and aligned with Ohio's State Content Standards. It is designed to include advanced problem solving, research, projects requiring creativity, individual and group work. Field trips and investigations into subject areas not covered in the regular classroom are designed to enhance the school experience.

What is Little LEAP?

Qualifying second grade students are invited to participate in LEAP during the last semester of grade 2. This is an introduction into the LEAP program.

Where are LEAP classes held?

The elementary LEAP classes are held at Greenwood Elementary School. Transportation is provided by Washington Local Schools. Placement in the program is limited by law. The maximum number of students per teacher per grade is 20 students. Minimum recommended service is 15% of the school week.

Does my child have to participate?

The final decision to permit participation rests with the parent and is a voluntary decision. The Written Education Plan (WEP) is reviewed and signed, allowing student participation. Students are expected to complete the full year in LEAP once the commitment has been made. If an emergency arises or the parent feels it is not in the best interest of the student to continue, withdrawal procedures can be initiated.

How are parents informed about testing results?

After a *Permission for Assessment* form is signed by the parent, testing is completed by qualified personnel within 60 days. Upon completion of test scoring, results are mailed to the parents within 30 days of the testing.

What is available after 6th grade?

Gifted services at the junior high include: Gifted Language Arts/Writing, Gifted Reading, and Gifted Learning Literacy (an elective focusing on organizational skills, study habits, learning styles and career exploration). In addition, some honors classes are available in 8th grade. At Whitmer, students have the opportunity to take honors, advanced placement and College Credit Plus classes.

What are the qualifications for the LEAP program?

The State of Ohio and House Bill 282 have set the criteria for gifted identification. To meet the state regulated standards, along with the Washington Local Schools gifted plan submitted to the Ohio Department of Education, a student must have a superior cognitive score (two standard deviations above the mean minus the standard error of measurement) on a nationally normed test of cognitive skills. Students must perform at or above the 95th percentile on a basic or composite battery of a nationally normed achievement test in reading and/or math, and score at or above the 90th percentile in the other. All students in 2nd and 6th grade are screened for gifted identification. See ID brochure for specific information about other tests as well as the qualifying scores.

Recommendations may be also made by parents/guardians, peers, the student, and other related professionals. Referral forms are located in each school office and online. Washington Local Schools provides at least two opportunities a year for assessment in all grade levels K-12. Any student transferring into the district will be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the request of the parent. We accept qualifying scores from approved tests taken outside our district. We also have additional tests available to ensure that we meet the needs of underrepresented populations along with services to provide testing in a student's native language. To request testing or reconsideration, please refer to the contact information listed on the back of this brochure.

Students do not need to re-qualify for gifted services on a yearly basis. He/she will continue to receive services unless a modification is requested by the parent.