**DATA COLLECTION:**

A Case Study is developed for each referred student which includes a variety of sources in order to obtain an overall picture of the nominated student’s abilities. This includes: achievement test scores, grades, intelligence test score, creativity test score, parent and teacher ratings, and any other data that might assist in the selection process. The data is entered on a “blind review” summary form; this means that the name of the student is not listed, thereby making the screening as objective as possible.

**PLACEMENT:**

A Screening Committee composed of the G.T. Facilitator, the building principal, guidance counselor, and three classroom teachers meets to identify those students whose case studies indicate a need for gifted and talented services.

Each student is considered on his/her own merit and is not compared to another student.

Parents are notified of the committee’s decision. Parents of students selected for the program must sign a “Permission to Participate” form before the identified student may begin attending gifted and talented classes.

Should the parents of a referred student disagree with the findings of the selection committee, they may appeal the decision, following the procedures laid out in the program handbook.

Although nominations are formally requested once a year, student nominations are accepted at any time during the school year. Students referred will be tested for possible inclusion in the program during the spring semester for inclusion in the program the following year.

The opportunity for identification extends from school entry through grade 12.

**NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

**The program handbook, which outlines all the policies and procedures of the program, can be found at the school website:**

**http:sting.k12.ar.us**

**“Our greatest natural resource is the mind of a child.”**

**(Walt Disney)**



*Harrisburg Public Schools*

*Gifted/Talented Program*

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*Program Goals*

1. Students will realize their power to teach themselves; they will understand how to learn, thus becoming self-reliant learners.

2. Students will learn to express their beliefs and respect the beliefs of others, while remaining open-minded, continually examining all sides of an issue.

3. Students will feel free to explore difficult areas and come to see mistakes, not as something to be ashamed of, but rather an indication that a challenge has been accepted.

4. Students will be involved in broad themes, appropriate for integration within multiple disciplines. These topics will nurture growth in critical/creative thinking, independent and group investigation, use of technology in the acquisition of knowledge and creation of products, affective development, leadership skills, and encourage service learning.

Characteristics of

Gifted/Talented Students

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS**

* They typically learn to read earlier –even before they start school
* They take less for granted, seeking the “hows” and “whys”
* They work well independently and for longer periods of time
* They relate well to adults and older children and may prefer their company

**CREATIVE CHARACTERISTICS**

* They are able to produce a large quantity of possibilities and ideas
* They see the relationship among seemingly unrelated facts/ideas
* They use different approaches to problem solving
* They are good guessers
* They are curious about ideas, situations, and events

**LEARNING CHARACTERISTICS**

* They read a great deal on their own
* They like structure, organization, and consistency in their environment
* They have a well developed common sense

**BEHAVIORAL CHARACTERISTICS**

* They are often well organized and efficient with tasks
* They have a longer attention span than their peers
* They have a highly developed moral and ethical sense
* They may seek to conceal their abilities so as not to stick out

**HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED**

**FOR THE PROGRAM?**

**NOMINATION PHASE:**

The nomination procedure consists of accepting referrals of potentially gifted students for the selection committee to consider via:

1. Teacher Nomination

2. Parent Nomination

3. Peer Nomination

4. Self Nomination

5. Community Member Nom.

Parents are notified of the nomination and asked to complete a survey about their child and to sign a form which gives permission for the testing of their son/daughter by the G.T. facilitator.

*Cont. on back*