

Questions for Parents to Ask Their Local School Systems about Gifted and Talented Education

Funding

1. Is your local school system adequately and equitably funding the delivery of Gifted and Talented services that are based on the state guidelines and national standards?
2. What percentage of the local school system and Thornton monies is specifically designated to support identified Gifted and Talented students?
3. Is your local school system prepared to provide services that encourage parents of Gifted and Talented students to transfer to Maryland under the recent BRAC initiative?

Identification

1. What processes does your local school system use to identify Gifted and Talented students?
2. Does your local school system have initiatives to identify and support under-identified/underserved students?

Teacher Training

1. Does your local school system provide adequate and substantive professional development for staff providing services to Gifted and Talented students?
2. What training in gifted education do your local Universities provide for Gifted Education teachers?

Services

1. Does your local school system provide specific differentiated curriculum, instruction, materials and counseling initiatives designed to address the needs of this population?

Data

1. Does your local school system provide and/or analyze disaggregated data related to the identification and academic performance of Gifted and Talented students and the services they receive?
2. Does your local school system monitor what happens to Gifted and Talented students in terms of :
 - a. Transfers to private, parochial, home schooling or non-traditional schools
 - b. Drop-outs from the local school system
 - c. Post-high school education