

## K-8 Gifted Support Program within the West Allegheny School District:

The Gifted Individualized Education Plan is a strength based document. If a child meets the multiple criteria to be identified as gifted and is in need of services, he or she qualifies for specially designed instruction under Chapter 16 of the Pennsylvania Code. If a child does not have an academic strength in a particular domain area (general academic ability or specific academic ability then the needs of the child would /should be met according to criteria determined in Chapter 4.

Multiple criteria include:

- A year or more above grade achievement level in one or more subjects as measured by a nationally normed and validated achievement test.
- An observed or measured rate of acquisition/retention of new academic content or skills.
- Demonstrated achievement, performance or expertise in one of more academic areas as evidenced by excellence of products, portfolio, or research, as well as criterion-referenced team judgement.
- Early and measured use of high level thinking skills (Guilford/Bloom's Taxonomy), academic creativity, leadership skills, intense academic interest areas, communication skills, foreign language aptitude or technology expertise.
- Documented, observed, validated or assessed evidence that intervening factors such as English as a Second Language, learning disability, physical impairment , emotional disability, gender or race bias, or socio/cultural deprivation are masking gifted