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## SERVICES

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- Elementary: Part-time Gifted services are available at every school. Full-time Gifted services are provided in several schools in each zone.
- Middle School: Part-time Gifted services are available in one or two classes in every school. Full-time Gifted services are provided in 3 or more classes at several schools in each zone.
- High School: Part-time consultative services are available at every high school in every zone.

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## IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

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- The Gifted identification process can be started either by the child's teacher or parent/guardian.
- If beginning the process themselves, teachers will request permission from parents to begin this process.
- If you wish to begin the identification process, provide a written request to your child's teacher.



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## RESOURCES

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- SENG is a nonprofit organization that empowers families and communities to guide Gifted and talented individuals to reach their goals: intellectually, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. **[sengifted.org](http://sengifted.org)**
- The National Association for Gifted Children's mission is to support those who enhance the growth and development of Gifted and talented children through education, advocacy, community building, and research. **[NAGC.org](http://NAGC.org)**
- Florida Association for the Gifted serves to inform, educate and support schools and communities regarding policies that result in best practices in gifted education that prepare gifted students to meet the challenges of the future. **[floridagifted.org](http://floridagifted.org)**
- The School District of Lee County's Gifted homepage. **[shorturl.at/jEXYZ](http://shorturl.at/jEXYZ)**

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## GIFTED PROGRAM SERVICES

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An introduction to the school district's Gifted identification process  
&  
Parent resource for frequently asked questions



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## MYTHS & MISCONCEPTIONS

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**Myth 1:** Students who are Gifted can make it on their own. They can succeed without help. They are good at everything.

**Fact:** Students who are Gifted do not automatically succeed if proper instruction and counseling do not occur. Giftedness manifests in a variety of ways, and Gifted students may excel in one area, but not another.

**Myth 2:** Students who are Gifted are not aware of being different unless someone tells them they are.

**Fact:** Students who are Gifted are aware of being different and need to understand their unique abilities and feelings. This perception of being different can lead to counseling needs.

**Myth 3:** Students who are Gifted should get all "A's" on their report cards.

**Fact:** Students who are Gifted have strengths and weakness just like everyone else. Over-concern with perfection can create many problems.

**Myth 4:** Students who are Gifted are more mature than their peers.

**Fact:** While students who are Gifted may exhibit maturity beyond their years, the expectation that they be naturally more responsible should be avoided.



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## GIFTED CHARACTERISTICS

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Gifted children are unlikely to exhibit **all** these characteristics, but it is common for a Gifted child to manifest many of the following traits:

- Exceptional memory
- Extensive vocabulary
- Ability to learn new material quickly
- Intense imagination
- Hyper-focused on areas of interest
- Enjoys numbers, puzzles, or mazes
- Learned to read early
- Prefers older playmates or adult company
- Mature sense of humor; humor may be misunderstood
- Compassionate for the feelings of others
- High expectations for self and others
- Ability to think abstractly
- High levels of energy
- Concerned with global issues - may express anxiety
- Mature for age
- Impatience with others; dislikes routine
- Bored with routine tasks
- Strong-willed; stubborn
- Overly sensitive; sensitive to criticism
- Difficulty with peers
- Unconcerned with details; messy work
- Disagrees vocally
- Domineering

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## WHAT IS GIFTEDNESS?

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The Florida Department of Education defines a Gifted student as one who has superior intellectual development and is capable of high performance, including those with demonstrated achievement and/or potential ability.

To be eligible for Gifted services, a student must demonstrate a need for a program, a majority of characteristics according to a standard scale, and superior intellectual development as measured by an individually administered standardized test of intelligence.

A Gifted student may also be a member of an under-represented group and meet the criteria specified in the approved school district plan for increasing participation of under-represented groups in Gifted programs.

### County Gifted Goals

- To develop higher levels of thinking
- To develop self-directed learning skills
- To develop a positive self-concept
- To develop positive interpersonal relationships
- To develop creative thinking and expression

