



SAYREVILLE TAG PROGRAM

PROGRAMMING SERVICES FOR GT STUDENTS,
GRADES 3-8

Presenter:
Dr. Marilyn Shediack

CHANGE IN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Past Practice: Students were identified using a “filter”. The prerequisite for eligibility in the TAG program was a benchmark score on an EOY assessment. Students who attained the required score were then further evaluated via parent and teacher rating scales, a creativity test, and a reasoning assessment.

Starting in September 2016: As per the NJDOE, “district boards of education shall make provisions for an ongoing K-12 identification process for gifted and talented students that includes multiple measures.” The identification process will now begin with teacher, parent, and/or self nomination. Five measures will be considered:

- PARCC scores
- District benchmark scores
- Creativity assessment scores
- Teacher rating scales
- Cognitive assessment

PROCESS FOR 2017 – 2018

Current Grade 2 Students

- Parents or teachers will nominate
- Students will take a cognitive skills test the week of March 20

Current Grades 3 – 7 not presently in TAG

- Parents or teachers will nominate (self nominations also in grades 5 – 8)
- Students who did not take the cognitive skills test last year will take it the week of March 20

All Current Grade 5 Students in TAG

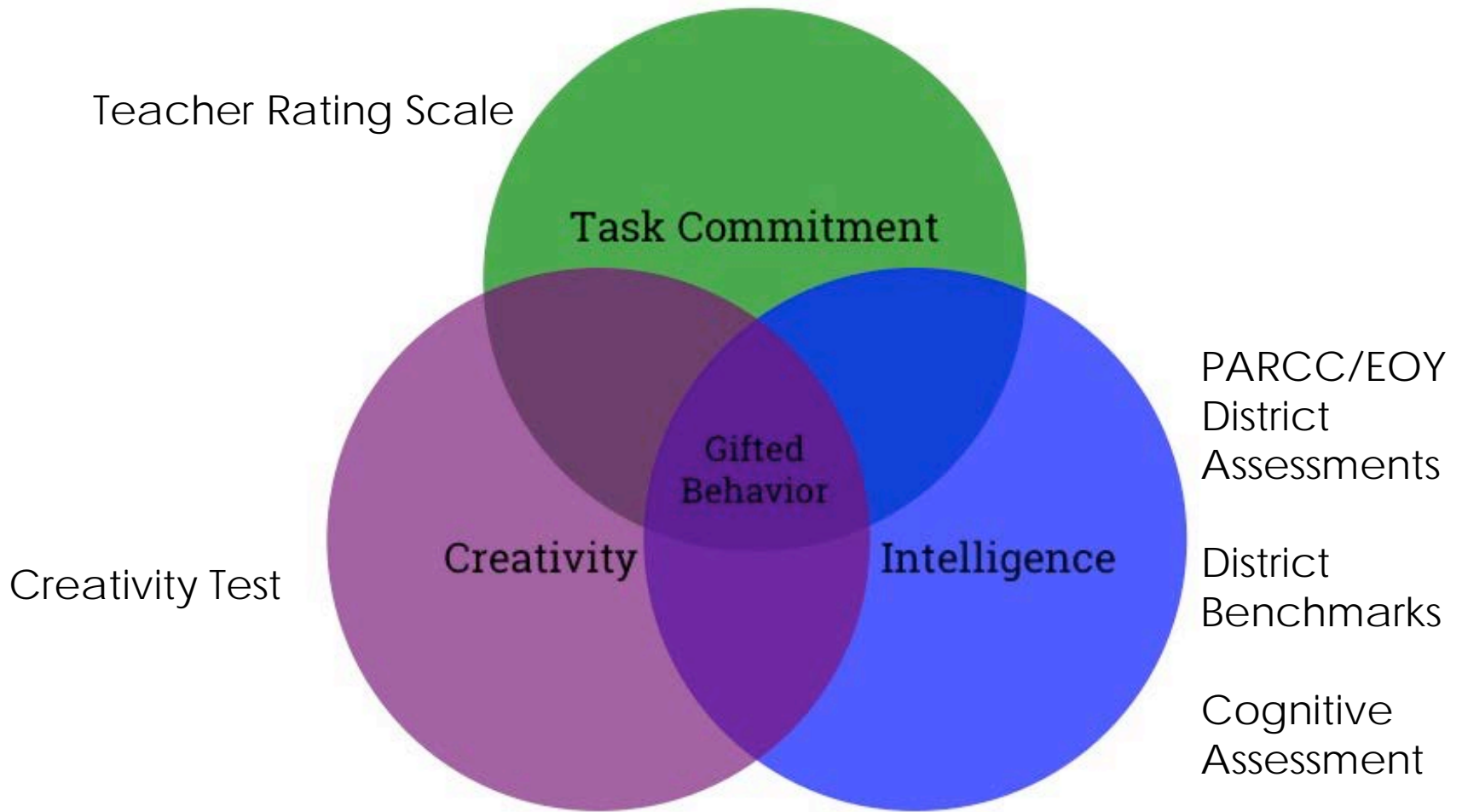
- Parents, teachers or self nominations must be submitted

All Current TAG students in Grades 3, 4, 6 and 7

- Will remain in TAG for 2017-2018, no nominations required

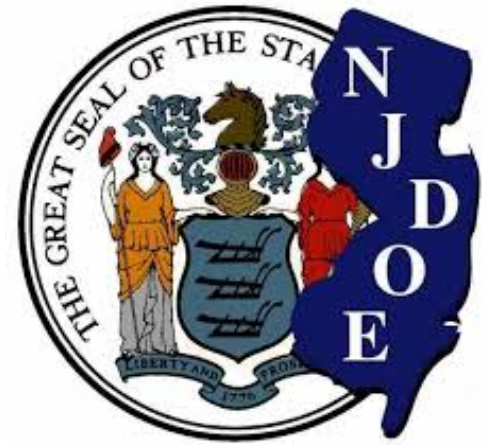
All parent nominations due March 3





RENZULLI'S 3-RING MODEL

NEW JERSEY DEFINITION



The regulations define gifted and talented students as:

*Those students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability, in one or more content areas, **when compared to their chronological peers in the local district** and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities.*

UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES AMONG BRIGHT CHILDREN

A HIGH ACHIEVER

Is attentive _____
Performs at the top of _____
Learns with ease _____
Completes assignments _____

Gets A's _____
Needs 6-8 repetitions to master _____
Remembers the answers _____
Understands complex, _____
abstract humor

A GIFTED LEARNER

Is selectively mentally engaged _____
Is beyond group _____
Already knows _____
Initiates assignments _____

May not be motivated by grades _____
Needs 1-3 repetitions to master _____
Poses unforeseen questions _____
Creates complex, _____
abstract humor

A CREATIVE THINKER

Daydreams; may seem off task
Is in own group
Questions: What if?
Initiates more projects than
will ever be completed
May not be motivated by grades
Questions the need for mastery
Sees exceptions
Relishes wild, off-the-wall
humor

A more extensive comparison can be found at
[http://www.bertiekingore.com/high-gt-
create.htm](http://www.bertiekingore.com/high-gt-create.htm).

Talented and Gifted Identification Procedure

Parent/Teacher/Self Nomination
(PDF forms available on website)



Available student data is collected (PARCC and Benchmarks)



Additional testing for nominated students.
(Cognitive, Creativity, and Teacher Ratings)



50-point identification matrix is used to determine top 10%
of students in each grade level



Talented and Gifted Identification Procedure (Continued)

If student is identified,
parents will receive letter
of notification.



TAG teacher notifies principal and classroom
teachers of placements.



If placed, students attend
weekly TAG classes.

If student is not identified,
parents will receive letter
of notification.



If not placed, procedure ends.
Students may be nominated
again the following year.

ANSWERS TO F.A.Q.

HOW ARE STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS GIFTED AND TALENTED?

- In the state of New Jersey, there are no state-mandated criteria. However, local school districts must use multiple measures to evaluate students.

WHAT IS MEANT BY “MULTIPLE MEASURES” AND WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- Multiple measures are different evaluative tools (such as test scores, work samples, and rating scales) that can be used to see a child’s potential giftedness. It is important to use multiple measures, rather than a single test score, because doing so provides a better picture of the child’s areas of strength. The use of multiple measures also provides more than one avenue for children who do not typically perform well on academic achievement tests.



ANSWERS TO F.A.Q.

WILL PARTICIPATION IN ANOTHER STATE OR DISTRICT'S GT PROGRAM QUALIFY A CHILD FOR TAG IN SAYREVILLE?

- Because each district's identification criteria are different, and students are compared to their peers within the district, an out-of-district evaluation will not be honored. However, students new to the district may be reevaluated using the district criteria.

WHAT KINDS OF SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO GIFTED STUDENTS WITHIN THE DISTRICT?

- Our district provides push-in enrichment lessons for all students in grades 2 and 3. A pull-out program is provided for identified third through eighth graders. At the high school level, students may choose to pursue their interests and/or strengths through various accelerated course offerings.



ANSWERS TO F.A.Q.

WHAT DOES THE TERM "TWICE EXCEPTIONAL" MEAN?

- Students who are twice exceptional may have learning disabilities that mask their giftedness. These students may receive both special education services and gifted programming as a part of their curriculum.

MUST A GIFTED CHILD EARN GOOD GRADES?

- While school performance is one indicator of a child's abilities, there are many gifted children who underachieve. Poor grades and giftedness are not mutually exclusive. However, to remain in the district TAG program, students must fulfill all regular classroom responsibilities and complete all assignments.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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IMPORTANT DATES

Nomination Forms Available:

February 13, 2017

Nomination Forms Due:

March 3, 2017

Cognitive Skills Assessment:

Week of March 20

Creativity Test:

TBD

Parent Notification Letters

TBD



RELATED RESOURCES

For forms, contact information, and FAQ, please check the Sayrevillek12.net website.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Helpful Websites:

National Association for Gifted Children

<http://www.nagc.org>

New Jersey Association for Gifted Children

<http://www.njagc.org>

