



Kansas Effective Practices Instructional Toolkit

Implementing Research and Resources Into Action Research Lesson 1: Daily Challenges

Quality Services for Gifted Students

Gifted students should be challenged in every classroom every day. There must be support to develop all teachers' understanding of gifted education practices. The education of gifted students should be a shared responsibility of the gifted educator, classroom teacher, other building staff and the parents. Services for gifted students must include:

- Rich and rigorous content
- Challenging process
- Open-ended products and assessment
- Student choice
- Teacher options
- Supportive learning environment

The critical components for gifted students to access the best services to meet their needs must include:

- Curriculum and instruction that fit each student
- Students having choice in what and how they learn
- Students taking part in setting IEP goals
- Classrooms that connect with the experiences and interests of the individual

Benefits

The benefits that accrue when using a continuum of services matched to individual needs are many, including the following:

- Congruence between gifted learners' needs and learning environment provides opportunity for development in cognitive, psychosocial and physical areas.
- Fewer misidentifications as emotionally/behaviorally disordered or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disordered (ADHD)
- Chronological and/or intellectual peer groups support continuing development.
- Gifted learners maintain high levels of interest in learning, motivation, and task persistence.
- Levels of services are matched to the needs of gifted learners and provide a full continuum of options.
- School services are available to and are designed specifically for the identified needs of the population, including age and developmental appropriateness.
- Services for gifted students cross all formats for differentiated options (e.g., consulting teacher, part-time pull-out, special class or school) and are not limited to a sole service design.
- Services are relevant to the identified needs of the gifted learners and are evaluated as such.
- Services address student needs, including academics, creativity, social/emotional and leadership.