## Parent Awareness of Gifted and Talented Program

#### Definition of a Gifted Child

"Gifted and talented student" means a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who exhibits high performance capacity in general intellectual ability.

#### Characteristics of Gifted Students

#### High Achiever

**Gifted Learner** 

- \*Knows the answers
  - \*Learns with ease
- \*Completes assignment
- \*Enjoys school
- \* Absorbs information
- \* Good memorizer
- \* Pleased with own learning

- \*Asks the questions
- \*Already knows
- \*Initiates projects
- \* Enjoys learning
  - \* Manipulates information
- \* Good guesser
- \* Is highly self-critical

### Program Design and Services

#### **Elementary**

-Students are pulled out of class for a 45 minutes every other week

**Middle School** 

--Students are pulled out of class for a 45 minutes every other week

High school

-Dual Credit

#### Referral Period

During the last part of the fall semester, parents, teachers, and community members may refer a student in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade for Gifted and Talented testing by filling out a referral form. The form can be picked up at the office of the campus the student attends or can be found on the school website.

#### **Assessment Process**

Once a referral form has been received for a student, a letter of parental permission to test for academic giftedness is sent home. Once parental approval is obtained, the students will begin the assessment process. Testing for the Gifted and Talented program is done at the end of January and beginning of February each year. Students are assessed with quantitative and qualitative assessments such as the NNAT, CogAt, Torrance Test of Creativity, and parent and teacher behavioral checklists.

#### **Determination of Need**

A selection committee including at least one educator who has completed thirty hours of gifted and talented training, and are current with an annual six hour update, a campus administrator, and a regular education teacher. The committee will review the data gathered during the assessment process, and recommend placement for students whose data meets the criteria for placement in the Gifted and Talented program. Decisions are based on multiple pieces of quantitative and qualitative data gathered during the assessment period.

#### Parent Notification

Once the selection committee has determined which students met the criteria for placement in the Gifted and Talented program, written notification will be sent out to the parents of all the students that participated in the GT assessments. The notification will tell the parents whether or not their child qualified for placement in the Gifted and Talented program.

If the student qualifies for the program, parental approval or denial of their child in the Gifted and Talented program must be obtained before services begin.

#### Student Served

Once parental approval for placement in the Gifted and Talented program has been obtained, the student will immediately begin being served in the Gifted and Talented program on their campus.

# Gifted and Talented Program Contact Information

Mrs. Salinas

Phone: (254) 842-5500

Email: <u>isalinas@sidney.esc14.net</u>