

What Really Happens in Gifted Education: A Portrait of Three States

Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to provide a snapshot of gifted education within three states. We examined district and school reports of policies and program practices including service delivery model choices, reassessment decisions, the existence of special activities for traditionally underserved students, and curriculum choices. The data presented in this report reflect the policies and practices for approximately 326 districts and 3,880 schools. Through our examination, one theme in particular emerged: there tends to be a lack of alignment between district selection criteria and various components of gifted services. In this presentation, we will explore this misalignment, discuss recommendations for schools and districts, as well as further examine the alignment between state, district, and school policies and practices.

Purpose

The purpose of this study was to provide a snapshot of gifted education within three states. We examined district and school reports of policies and program practices including service delivery model choices, reassessment decisions, the existence of special activities for traditionally underserved student, and curriculum choices. Through this examination, one theme in particular emerged: district selection criteria does not align with various components of gifted services. We explore this disconnect further in the current study. Additionally, in the full presentation, we will examine the correspondence between state, district, and school policies and practices.

Perspectives

Peters, Matthews, McCoach, and McBee (2014) in their book on designing and implementing advanced academic programs point out that traditional models for gifted education tend to start with the identification of gifted students. However, when school and district administrators focus their efforts on first designing the gifted program, the identification and selection process, including the selection of assessments, are better aligned with programming decisions and can better predict student success. In the current study, we examine the extent of this alignment with survey data collected from three states.

Having updated information on school and district practice is useful for informing policies, practices, and future scholarship. The most recent data on programs attempting to develop the gifts and talents of promising students are provided by the *2014-2015 State of the States in Gifted Education* report (NAGC & CSDPG, 2013), which included data from 40 states, DC, and Guam. While this data provides insight into these programs, the biennial survey is only administered to state-level coordinators. The particulars of gifted programming are dictated by both state and local education agencies and therefore examining district and school practices are essential for understanding the condition of education for gifted children. Additionally, with the growing economic, linguistic, and racial diversity in public schools, it is important to know how schools and districts are serving the diverse array of learners.

Methods

Between April 2015 and February 2017, we administered surveys to districts and schools in three states mandated to identify and serve gifted students. The district and school surveys were designed to extract current information about effective identification and programming practices in three states. With these surveys, we sought to determine whether key components distinguish districts and schools in which gifted students achieved higher reading or math growth, both across the general population of gifted students and specifically with students from traditionally underserved groups. The *District Level Survey* was sent to all district administrators

with responsibility for gifted education, and the *School Level Survey* was administered to every public school containing a fifth-grade class. These surveys included questions about policies, procedures, and assessments used to identify students for gifted services, as well as a range of programming details.

Data sources

The data presented in this report reflect the policies and practices for approximately 326 districts and 3,880 schools. The district and school survey contain questions for district administrators and school-level coordinators about current gifted programming practices. Questions on these surveys were aligned with a research-based framework and were developed using an iterative process. The survey questions were presented to a panel consisting of experts in the areas of research design, early childhood education, language arts, gifted education, English language learners, and other traditionally underrepresented populations.

Overall, 304 districts across the three states completed the district survey and 2,293 schools across the three states completed school surveys. Response rates for the district survey ranged from 82.8% to 88.7%. Response rates for the school survey ranged from 48.6% to 73.5%.

Results

Regarding identification-related decisions, the majority of responding districts identify students as gifted in Reading only (69%) and Math only (66.3%). Classification patterns differed by state, though. State 3 focuses on Global identification/classification while State 1 eschews global identification/classification in favor of Reading and Math designations, and State 2 is somewhere in between. Regarding evidence use, over 90% of districts in all three states reported utilizing cognitive ability tests, teacher nominations, and achievement test scores as evidence in the identification process. Additionally, as it relates to the decision-making process, a large proportion of districts from across all three states report using a cut-score to make decisions regarding selecting and placing students in the gifted programs. This was especially the case in State 3. Districts in States 1 and 2 also reported utilizing a selection committee.

Regarding programming, the majority of responding districts in all three states do not use a district-wide reading or math curriculum that is specifically designed for gifted students. In fact, almost no districts in any the sample states provide Math curriculum for gifted students. Additionally, the majority of responding schools across the three states do not offer a separate gifted education curriculum for reading/ELA or math. For schools that *do* offer separate curriculum for gifted students, the majority of responding schools use a curriculum that focuses on process skills. A large proportion of schools also focused on providing more depth. Schools were also slightly more likely to report using above grade-level content and faster pace to describe their math curriculum, when compared to their description of the reading curriculum.

Further, when asked how regular education math and reading standards are adjusted for gifted students, the majority of schools across the three states reported that grade level standards are extended or expanded for gifted students (versus using the same regular education standards or above grade level standards for gifted students). Most schools also report that gifted students spend 5 hours or more in the regular education ELA and math classrooms.

Moreover, when asked about the amount of autonomy given to teachers in choosing content to deliver to gifted students, over 50% of districts and schools report that teachers are given ‘a lot’ or ‘complete autonomy in choosing the content taught to the gifted students in the elementary schools. In fact, just under 70% of districts in State 1 report that teachers have ‘a lot’ or ‘complete’ autonomy (the percentages in other states were lower with 55.2% in State 2 and 52% in State 3).

In terms of service delivery models, the majority of schools in each of the three states report using pull-out class for gifted instruction, although this model appeared to be more popular in State 1 with over 80% of schools endorsing this class type. When asked about subject match between the pull-out program and the class from which students are pulled, less than 50% of schools reported that there was a match. Between 44% and 45% of schools report that subjects sometimes match. Of the schools that reported offering pull-out classes to students, the majority of responding schools in States 1 and 2 report that the typical 5th grade gifted student receives 1 to 2 hours of pull-out instruction per week. The majority of schools in State 3 report that students receive 5 hours or more per week.

Additionally, a large percentage of responding schools in States 1 and 2 report that gifted students participate in cluster grouping. However, only 36% of State 1 schools report that tiered instructional activities are ‘frequently’ or ‘always’ used in cluster groups. Schools in State 2 were more likely to report that teachers ‘frequently’ or ‘always’ use tiered instructional activities.

Regarding reassessment decisions, the majority of responding districts across the three states reassessed students who were not identified for the gifted program at regular intervals (States 1 and 2) or as needed (State 3). The majority of responding districts in all three states do not reassess students who have been identified for the gifted program. In other words, across all three states, once students are identified as gifted, they remain gifted during the remainder of their time in the school district.

Finally, the majority of responding districts across the three states do not offer special activities for potentially gifted elementary school students from underrepresented populations. Although more districts in State 1 appear to offer activities than districts in other states. Of the districts that offer special activities for students from underrepresented populations, most of them (across the three states) report utilizing teacher nominations as a means of determining access to these activities. Additionally, districts in State 2 and 3 used standardized tests. Most districts in all three states reported not utilizing a specific curriculum to guide these special activities.

Significance

Overall, these results suggest that gifted identification and selection across the three states focus on academics (such as reading, math) and/or cognitive ability. However, program practices do not seem to align with this focus. Schools overwhelmingly report using pull-out programs for gifted students, but schools and districts generally do not use a curriculum to guide gifted program activities. Even for those schools that offer a separate curriculum for gifted students, the focus of that curriculum tends to be on process skills (versus above grade level content, for example). Schools report that students identified as gifted in ELA or math tend to spend over 5 hours or more in the regular education ELA or math classroom, respectively and most schools use expanded grade level standards in these classes. Further, most schools and districts report that teachers have ‘a lot’ or ‘complete’ autonomy in selecting content for gifted students. Even though these findings might be troubling for some, being aware of what is happening in schools is the first step to improving the condition of education for gifted students. In the full presentation, we will discuss recommendations for schools and districts and further examine the alignment between state, district, and school policies and practices.

References

Matthews, M., Peters, S., McCoach, D. B., & McBee, M. (2013). *Beyond gifted education: Designing and implementing advanced academic programs*. Austin, TX: Prufrock Press.

National Association for Gifted Children and the Council of State Directors of Programs for the Gifted (2015). *State of the States in Gifted Education Report*. Retrieved from <http://www.nagc.org/sites/default/files/key%20reports/2014-2015%20State%20of%20the%20States%20%28final%29.pdf>

Tables

Which of the following statements describes the way in which elementary students are classified as gifted once they have been identified?

Students Classified as Globally Gifted

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	89	93	2	184
	Percentage	87.3	64.1	3.9	61.5
Yes	Frequency	13	52	50	116
	Percentage	12.8	35.9	96.2	38.5
Total	Frequency	102	145	52	299
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Students Classified as Gifted in Reading/ELA

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	10	33	49	92
	Percentage	9.7	22.8	100.0	31.0
Yes	Frequency	93	112	0	205
	Percentage	90.3	77.2	0.0	69.0
Total	Frequency	103	145	49	297
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Students Classified as Gifted in Math

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	15	36	49	100
	Percentage	14.56	24.83	100	33.67
Yes	Frequency	88	109	0	197
	Percentage	85.4	75.2	0.0	66.3
Total	Frequency	103	145	49	297
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

At what grade level are students most commonly first identified as gifted?

		Grade level of Identification			
Grade		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
K	Frequency	0	2	1	3
	Percentage	0.0	1.4	2.0	1.0
1st	Frequency	0	0	10	10
	Percentage	0.0	0.0	19.6	3.3
2nd	Frequency	5	50	32	87
	Percentage	4.9	34.5	62.8	29.1
3rd	Frequency	68	75	8	151
	Percentage	66.0	51.7	15.7	50.5
4th	Frequency	30	8	0	38
	Percentage	29.1	5.5	0.0	12.7
5th	Frequency	0	5	0	5
	Percentage	0.0	3.5	0.0	1.7
None of the above	Frequency	0	5	0	5
	Percentage	0.0	3.5	0.0	1.7
Total	Frequency	103	145	51	299
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Does your district use a test as a universal screening procedure (i.e., administer one test to all students at a given grade level to screen for giftedness)?

		Universal Screening Use			
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	18	8	39	65
	Percentage	17.7	5.5	75.0	21.7
Yes	Frequency	84	137	13	234
	Percentage	82.4	94.5	25.0	78.3
Total	Frequency	102	145	52	299
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

At what grade level(s) do you administer the universal screener to all students to screen for potential giftedness?

Grade in which Universal Screener Administered

		State 1 N=85	State 2 N=138	State 3 N=13
Grade K	Frequency	0	2	5
	Percentage	0	1.5	41.7
Grade 1	Frequency	0	15	5
	Percentage	0	10.9	38.5
Grade 2	Frequency	8	103	9
	Percentage	9.4	74.6	75.0
Grade 3	Frequency	71	24	4
	Percentage	82.6	17.4	33.3
Grade 4	Frequency	14	5	4
	Percentage	16.5	3.6	33.3
Grade 5	Frequency	12	13	3
	Percentage	14.1	9.4	25.0

What type of assessment do you use as a universal screener?

Type of Assessment used as Universal Screener

		State 1 N=85	State 2 N=138	State 3 N=12	Total
Group Test of Cognitive Ability	Frequency	14	59	4	77
	Percentage	16.5	42.8	36.4	32.9
Non-verbal Test of Cognitive Ability	Frequency	14	14	3	31
	Percentage	16.5	10.1	27.3	13.3
Teacher Rating Scale	Frequency	78	101	1	180
	Percentage	90.7	73.2	9.1	76.6
Standardized Achievement Test	Frequency	23	25	4	52
	Percentage	27.1	18.1	30.8	22.0

Which of the following pieces of evidence does your district use as part of the identification process?

Parent Nomination					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	22	17	6	45
	Percentage	21.4	11.7	11.5	15.0
Yes	Frequency	81	128	46	255
	Percentage	78.6	88.3	88.5	85.0
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Teacher Nomination					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	9	7	2	18
	Percentage	8.7	4.8	3.9	6.0
Yes	Frequency	94	138	50	282
	Percentage	91.3	95.2	96.2	94.0
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Teacher Rating Scale					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	24	37	4	65
	Percentage	23.3	25.5	7.7	21.7
Yes	Frequency	79	108	48	235
	Percentage	76.7	74.5	92.3	78.3
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Student Work Samples					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	38	31	34	103
	Percentage	36.9	21.4	68.0	34.6
Yes	Frequency	65	114	16	195
	Percentage	63.1	78.6	32.0	65.4
Total	Frequency	103	145	50	298
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Cognitive Ability Test					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	5	8	5	18
	Percentage	4.9	5.5	9.6	6.0
Yes	Frequency	98	137	47	282
	Percentage	95.2	94.5	90.4	94.0
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Achievement Test					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	4	6	17	27
	Percentage	3.9	4.1	32.7	9.0
Yes	Frequency	99	139	35	273
	Percentage	96.1	95.9	67.3	91.0
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Observation Tools

Dynamic Assessment

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	51	41	29	121
	Percentage	49.5	28.3	59.2	40.7
Yes	Frequency	52	104	20	176
	Percentage	50.5	71.7	40.8	59.3
Total	Frequency	103	145	49	297
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	100	133	49	282
	Percentage	98.0	91.7	100.0	95.3
Yes	Frequency	2	12	0	14
	Percentage	2.0	8.3	0.0	4.7
Total	Frequency	102	145	49	296
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Performance-Based Assessment

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	70	57	34	161
	Percentage	68.6	39.3	69.4	54.4
Yes	Frequency	32	88	15	135
	Percentage	31.4	60.7	30.6	45.6
Total	Frequency	102	145	49	296
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Non-Verbal Assessment

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	55	46	29	130
	Percentage	53.9	31.7	58.0	43.8
Yes	Frequency	47	99	21	167
	Percentage	46.1	68.3	42.0	56.2
Total	Frequency	102	145	50	297
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Creativity Test

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	97	81	44	222
	Percentage	95.1	55.9	86.3	74.5
Yes	Frequency	5	64	7	76
	Percentage	4.9	44.1	13.7	25.5
Total	Frequency	102	145	51	298
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Self-Nomination

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	73	82	35	190
	Percentage	70.9	56.6	70.0	63.8
Yes	Frequency	30	63	15	108
	Percentage	29.1	43.5	30.0	36.2
Total	Frequency	103	145	50	298
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Does your district assess English language learners in their native language when identifying students as gifted?

ELL Students Assessed in Native Language

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
Yes, always	Frequency	4	27	11	42
	Percentage	3.9	18.8	21.2	14.1
Yes, for common languages	Frequency	14	28	23	65
	Percentage	13.7	19.4	44.2	21.8
Only if requested	Frequency	36	45	8	89
	Percentage	35.3	31.3	15.4	29.9
No	Frequency	48	44	10	102
	Percentage	47.1	30.6	19.2	34.2
Total	Frequency	102	144	52	298
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Does your district modify the identification process when evaluating students from underserved populations?

District Modifies Identification Process When Evaluating Students from Underserved Populations

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	76	110	19	205
	Percentage	74.5	76.4	36.5	68.8
Yes	Frequency	26	34	33	93
	Percentage	25.5	23.6	63.5	31.2
Total	Frequency	102	144	52	298
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

In what ways do you modify the evaluation process for students from underserved populations?

How Districts Modify the Identification Process for Underserved Populations

		State 1 N=27	State 2 N= 34	State 3 N=33	Total
Evaluate ELL in Native Language	Frequency	7	11	18	36
	Percentage	25.9	32.4	54.6	38.3

Non-Verbal Assessment	Frequency	17	29	24	70
	Percentage	63.0	85.3	72.7	74.5
Flexible about Test Scores	Frequency	16	10	29	55
	Percentage	59.3	29.4	87.9	58.5
Talent Pool Approach	Frequency	8	27	5	40
	Percentage	29.6	79.4	15.6	43.0
Extra Consideration	Frequency	12	13	9	34
	Percentage	44.4	38.2	28.1	36.6
Different Weighting	Frequency	2	4	19	25
	Percentage	7.4	11.8	59.4	26.9

Which statements describe your district's decision-making process regarding selecting and placing students in the gifted program?

District Decision Making Process Regarding Selecting and Placing Students in the Gifted Program

		State 1 N=104	State 2 N=145	State 3 N=52
Selection Committee or Student Study Team	No	36.9%	25.7%	66.7%
	Yes	63.1%	74.3%	33.3%
Matrix	No	50.0%	76.4%	64.0%
	Yes	50.0%	23.6%	36.0%
Cutscore	No	42.2%	45.1%	13.5%
	Yes	57.8%	54.9%	86.5%
Modify Traditional Criteria for Underrepresented Students	No	84.3%	89.6%	46.2%
	Yes	15.7%	10.4%	53.9%

Curriculum

Is there a district-wide mathematics curriculum that is specifically designed for gifted students?

District-Wide Mathematics Curriculum Specifically for Gifted Students?

	State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
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No	Frequency	94	133	50	277
	Percentage	91.3%	92.4%	96.2%	92.6%
Yes	Frequency	9	11	2	22
	Percentage	8.7%	7.6%	3.9%	7.4%
Total	Frequency	103	144	52	299
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Do all elementary schools in your district use this mathematics curriculum with their gifted students?

Do All Elementary School Use the Mathematics Curriculum?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	1	5	0	6
	Percentage	11.11	45.45	0	27.27
Yes	Frequency	8	6	2	16
	Percentage	88.89	54.55	100	72.73
Total	Frequency	9	11	2	22
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Is there a district-wide reading/English language arts curriculum that is specifically designed for gifted students?

District-Wide Reading/ELA Curriculum Specifically for Gifted Students?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	90	127	50	267
	Percentage	87.4	87.6	96.2	89
Yes	Frequency	13	18	2	33
	Percentage	12.6	12.4	3.9	11
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Do all elementary schools in your district use this reading/English language arts curriculum with their gifted students?

Do All Elementary School Use the Reading/ELA Curriculum?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	2	9	0	11
	Percentage	15.4	50.0	0.0	33.3
Yes	Frequency	11	9	2	22
	Percentage	84.6	50.0	100.0	66.7
Total	Frequency	13	18	2	33
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Indicate the ways in which the regular education reading/English language arts standards are adapted for gifted students.

ELA Standards: Same Standards

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
no	Frequency	595	274	518	1,387
	Percentage	67.9	70.1	71.7	69.7
yes	Frequency	281	117	205	603
	Percentage	32.1	29.9	28.4	30.3
Total	Frequency	876	391	723	1,990
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

ELA Standards: Extended Learning Activities

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
no	Frequency	394	157	362	913
	Percentage	44.8	40.0	50.0	45.7
yes	Frequency	485	236	362	1,083
	Percentage	55.2	60.1	50.0	54.3
Total	Frequency	879	393	724	1,996
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

ELA Standards: Expanded Standards

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
no	Frequency	154	81	161	396
	Percentage	17.5	20.6	22.2	19.8
yes	Frequency	725	312	563	1,600
	Percentage	82.5	79.4	77.8	80.2
Total	Frequency	879	393	724	1,996
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

ELA Standards: Above Grade Level Standards					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
no	Frequency	499	179	506	1,184
	Percentage	56.8	45.6	69.9	59.3

yes	Frequency	380	214	218	812
	Percentage	43.2	54.5	30.1	40.7
Total	Frequency	879	393	724	1,996
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Indicate the ways in which the regular education mathematics standards are adapted for gifted students.

Math Standards: Same Standards					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	605	274	521	1,400
	Percentage	69.1	70.1	72.1	70.4
Yes	Frequency	271	117	202	590
	Percentage	30.9	29.9	27.9	29.7
Total	Frequency	876	391	723	1,990
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

yes	Frequency	722	309	548	1,579
	Percentage	82.4	79.0	75.8	79.4
Total	Frequency	876	391	723	1,990
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Math Standards: Extended Learning Activities					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	384	168	359	911
	Percentage	43.8	43.0	49.7	45.8
Yes	Frequency	492	223	364	1,079
	Percentage	56.2	57.0	50.4	54.2
Total	Frequency	876	391	723	1,990
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Math Standards: Above Grade Level Standards					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
no	Frequency	469	159	500	1,128
	Percentage	53.5	40.7	69.2	56.7
yes	Frequency	407	232	223	862
	Percentage	46.5	59.3	30.8	43.3
Total	Frequency	876	391	723	1,990
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Math Standards: Expanded Standards					
		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
no	Frequency	154	82	175	411
	Percentage	17.6	21.0	24.2	20.7

Is there a gifted education curriculum for reading/English language arts that is separate from the regular education curricula offered at your school?

Gifted education curriculum for Reading/ELA that is separate from the regular curricula offered

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	564	271	580	1,415
	Percentage	64.2	69.0	80.0	70.9
Yes	Frequency	315	122	145	582
	Percentage	35.8	31.0	20.0	29.1
Total	Frequency	879	393	725	1,997
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

At what grade levels is reading/English language arts gifted curriculum used?

Grade levels in which reading/English language arts gifted curriculum used

		State 1 N=308	State 2 N=119	State 3 N=145
Grade K	Frequency	62	25	53
	Percentage	20.1	21.0	36.3
Grade 1	Frequency	69	42	93
	Percentage	22.4	35.3	63.7
Grade 2	Frequency	105	63	119
	Percentage	34.1	52.9	81.5
Grade 3	Frequency	216	107	132
	Percentage	70.1	89.9	90.4
Grade 4	Frequency	287	113	134
	Percentage	93.2	95.0	91.8
Grade 5	Frequency	290	111	131
	Percentage	94.2	93.3	89.7

Which of the following statements describe your school’s reading/English language arts curriculum for gifted students?

Description of ELA curriculum for gifted students			
	State 1 N=309	State 2 N=119	State 3 N=146
Faster Pace	115	40	60
	37.2	33.6	41.1
More Depth	236	90	102
	76.4	75.6	69.9
More Breadth	175	53	79
	56.6	44.5	54.1
Above Grade Level Content	184	82	79
	59.6	68.9	54.1
Process Skills	252	95	116
	81.6	79.8	79.5

Summary: The majority of responding schools that offer a separate gifted education curriculum for ELA use a curriculum that focuses on process skills. A large proportion of schools also focus on providing more depth in the ELA curriculum <cross tab b/w depth and process skills>

On average, how many hours per week does a gifted identified student spend receiving this reading/English language arts gifted curriculum?

How many hours per week does a gifted student receive separate ELA curriculum?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0 hours	Frequency	2	1	4	7
	Percentage	0.7	0.8	2.8	1.2
1 hour	Frequency	101	27	13	141
	Percentage	32.7	22.7	9.0	24.7
2 hours	Frequency	72	37	29	138

	Percentage	23.3	31.1	20.1	24.1
3 hours	Frequency	30	15	12	57
	Percentage	9.7	12.6	8.3	10.0
4 hours	Frequency	23	15	11	49
	Percentage	7.4	12.6	7.6	8.6
5 or more hours	Frequency	75	21	71	167
	Percentage	24.3	17.7	49.3	29.2
Don't Know	Frequency	6	3	4	13
	Percentage	1.9	2.5	2.8	2.3
Total	Frequency	309	119	144	572
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

On average, how many weeks per year does a gifted identified student spend receiving this reading/English language arts gifted curriculum?

How many weeks per year does a gifted student receive separate ELA curriculum?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0-8 weeks	Frequency	8	4	8	20
	Percentage	2.6	3.4	5.6	3.5
9-17 weeks	Frequency	4	4	2	10
	Percentage	1.3	3.4	1.4	1.8
18-26 weeks	Frequency	59	26	19	104
	Percentage	19.1	21.9	13.2	18.2
27-35 weeks	Frequency	97	53	37	187
	Percentage	31.4	44.5	25.7	32.7
35+ weeks	Frequency	131	27	72	230
	Percentage	42.4	22.7	50.0	40.2
Don't Know	Frequency	10	5	6	21

	Percentage	3.2	4.2	4.2	3.7
Total	Frequency	309	119	144	572
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Is there a gifted education curriculum for mathematics that is separate from the regular education curricula offered at your school?

Gifted education curriculum for Math that is separate from the regular curricula offered

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	604	308	595	1,507
	Percentage	69.1	78.8	82.2	75.8
Yes	Frequency	270	83	129	482
	Percentage	30.9	21.2	17.8	24.2
Total	Frequency	874	391	724	1,989
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

At what grade levels is mathematics gifted curriculum used?

Grade levels in which Math gifted curriculum used

		State 1 N=259	State 2 N= 81	State 3 N=129
Grade K	Frequency	54	21	46
	Percentage	20.9	25.9	35.7
Grade 1	Frequency	61	32	77
	Percentage	23.6	39.5	59.7
Grade 2	Frequency	83	39	105
	Percentage	32.1	48.2	81.4
Grade 3	Frequency	170	59	111
	Percentage	65.6	72.8	86.1
Grade 4	Frequency	236	72	117
	Percentage	91.1	88.9	90.7

Grade	Frequency	244	76	117
5	Percentage	94.2	93.8	90.7

Which of the following statements describe your school’s mathematics curriculum for gifted students?

Description of Math curriculum for gifted students

		State 1 N=269	State 2 N=82	State 3 N=132
Faster Pace	Frequency	122	42	69
	Percentage	45.4	51.2	52.3
More In-Depth	Frequency	207	53	103
	Percentage	77.0	64.6	78.0
Greater Breadth	Frequency	156	40	72
	Percentage	58.0	48.8	54.6
Above Grade Level Content	Frequency	176	57	82
	Percentage	65.4	69.5	62.1
Process Skills	Frequency	204	54	109
	Percentage	75.8	65.9	82.6

On average, how many hours per week does a gifted identified child spend receiving this mathematics gifted curriculum?

How many hours per week does a gifted student receive separate ELA curriculum?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0 hours	Frequency	4	2	3	9
	Percentage	1.5	2.4	2.3	1.9
1 hour	Frequency	103	22	24	149
	Percentage	38.4	26.8	18.3	31.0
2 hours	Frequency	63	23	22	108

	Percentage	23.5	28.1	16.8	22.5
3 hours	Frequency	22	6	8	36
	Percentage	8.2	7.3	6.1	7.5
4 hours	Frequency	12	9	8	29
	Percentage	4.5	11.0	6.1	6.0
5 or more hours	Frequency	58	18	62	138
	Percentage	21.6	22.0	47.3	28.7
Don't Know	Frequency	6	2	4	12
	Percentage	2.2	2.4	3.1	2.5
Total	Frequency	268	82	131	481
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

On average, how many weeks per year does a gifted identified child spend receiving this mathematics gifted curriculum?

How many weeks per year does a gifted student receive separate Math curriculum?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0-8 weeks	Frequency	13	9	2	20
	Percentage	4.9	11.0	1.5	4.2
9-17 weeks	Frequency	5	4	1	10
	Percentage	1.9	4.9	0.8	2.1
18-26 weeks	Frequency	22	11	9	42
	Percentage	8.2	13.4	6.9	8.7
27-35 weeks	Frequency	114	38	50	202
	Percentage	42.5	46.3	38.2	42.0
35+ weeks	Frequency	104	21	59	184
	Percentage	38.8	25.6	45.0	38.3
Don't Know	Frequency	10	2	7	19
	Percentage	3.7	2.4	5.3	4.0

Total	Frequency	268	82	131	481
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Service Models (DS: 15 SS:)

Which of the following statements describes your district’s use of acceleration as a service delivery option for your elementary school gifted students?

Use of Acceleration as a Service Delivery Option

		State 1	State 2	State 3
No Acceleration	No	90.1%	91.7%	82.0%
	Yes	9.9%	8.3%	18.0%
Subject-based Acceleration	No	26.5%	17.2%	28.9%
	Yes	73.5%	82.8%	71.2%
Full-grade Acceleration	No	25.5%	28.3%	28.9%
	Yes	74.2%	71.7%	71.2%

Do gifted students at your school attend pull-out classes for gifted instruction?

Do gifted students attend pull-out classes for gifted instruction?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	163	127	230	520
	Percentage	18.8	32.7	31.9	26.3
Yes	Frequency	703	261	490	1,454
	Percentage	81.18	67.27	68.06	73.66
Total	Frequency	866	388	720	1,974
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

How many hours per week of pull-out instruction does a typical 5th grade gifted student receive?

Hours per week of pullout instruction a typical 5th grade gifted student receives

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0 hours	Frequency	12	7	17	36
	Percentage	1.7	2.7	3.5	2.5
1 hour	Frequency	205	92	30	327
	Percentage	29.6	35.8	6.2	22.8
2 hours	Frequency	249	67	62	378
	Percentage	35.9	26.1	12.8	26.4
3 hours	Frequency	80	31	54	165
	Percentage	11.5	12.1	11.2	11.5
4 hours	Frequency	48	27	63	138
	Percentage	6.9	10.5	13.0	9.6
5 more hours	Frequency	94	30	251	375
	Percentage	13.6	11.7	52.0	26.2
Don't Know	Frequency	5	3	6	14
	Percentage	0.7	1.2	1.2	1.0
Total	Frequency	693	257	483	1,433
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Does the subject area of the pull-out program match the subject area of the class from which the student is pulled?

Subject match between pull-out program and class from which students are pulled?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
Yes	Frequency	314	112	187	613
	Percentage	45.2	43.6	38.6	42.7
Sometimes	Frequency	312	116	213	641
	Percentage	45.0	45.1	44.0	44.7
No	Frequency	62	22	65	149
	Percentage	8.9	8.6	13.4	10.4

Don't Know	Frequency	6	7	19	32
	Percentage	0.9	2.7	3.9	2.2
Total	Frequency	694	257	484	1,435
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Indicate the subject areas and grade levels in which students receive pull-out gifted instruction.

Grade levels in which students receive pullout
gifted instruction-ELA

		State 1 N=681	State 2 N=239	State 3 N=392
Grade K	Frequency	82	56	145
	Percentage	12.0	23.4	37.0
Grade 1	Frequency	138	87	256
	Percentage	20.3	36.4	65.3
Grade 2	Frequency	187	125	294
	Percentage	27.5	52.3	75.0
Grade 3	Frequency	453	188	309
	Percentage	66.5	78.7	78.8
Grade 4	Frequency	648	207	308
	Percentage	95.2	86.6	78.6
Grade 5	Frequency	654	201	319
	Percentage	96.0	84.1	81.4

Grade levels in which students receive pullout
gifted instruction-Math

		State 1 N=667	State 2 N=233	State 3 N=383	
Grade K	Frequency	76	43	142	
	Percentage	11.4	18.5	37.1	
		Frequency	121	64	240

Grade 1	Percentage	18.1	27.5	62.7
Grade 2	Frequency	158	97	285
	Percentage	23.7	41.6	74.4
Grade 3	Frequency	431	171	311
	Percentage	64.6	73.4	81.2
Grade 4	Frequency	637	199	309
	Percentage	95.5	85.4	80.7
Grade 5	Frequency	637	199	309
	Percentage	95.5	85.4	80.7

Do gifted students at your school participate in push-in classes, in which the gifted education teacher either co-teaches or works with the gifted students in the regular education classroom?

Do gifted students participate in push-in classes?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	499	264	553	1,316
	Percentage	58.2	68.9	77.3	67.3
Yes	Frequency	358	119	162	639
	Percentage	41.8	31.1	22.7	32.7
Total	Frequency	857	383	715	1,955
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

How many hours per week of push-in instruction does a typical 5th grade gifted student receive?

Hours per week of push-in instruction a typical 5th grade gifted student receives

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0 hours	Frequency	75	29	38	142
	Percentage	20.9	24.4	23.0	22.1

1 hour	Frequency	138	43	19	200
	Percentage	38.4	36.1	11.5	31.1
2 hours	Frequency	60	15	18	93
	Percentage	16.7	12.6	10.9	14.5
3 hours	Frequency	27	4	19	50
	Percentage	7.5	3.4	11.5	7.8
4 hours	Frequency	17	5	4	26
	Percentage	4.7	4.2	2.4	4.0
5 or more hours	Frequency	28	13	53	94
	Percentage	7.8	10.9	32.1	14.6
Don't Know	Frequency	14	10	14	38
	Percentage	3.9	8.4	8.5	5.9
Total	Frequency	359	119	165	643
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

For each subject area, indicate the grade levels that have push-in instruction for the gifted students.

Grade levels in which students receive push-in gifted instruction-ELA

		State 1 N=97	State 2 N=131	State 3 N=310
Grade K	Frequency	25	26	41
	Percentage	25.8	19.9	13.2
Grade 1	Frequency	32	58	52
	Percentage	33.0	44.3	16.8
Grade 2	Frequency	37	74	58
	Percentage	38.1	56.5	18.7
Grade 3	Frequency	54	73	137
	Percentage	55.7	55.7	44.2

Grade 4	Frequency	61	75	216
	Percentage	62.9	57.3	69.7
Grade 5	Frequency	64	78	225
	Percentage	66.0	59.5	72.6

Grade levels in which students receive push-in
gifted instruction-Math

		State 1 N=310	State 2 N=99	State 3 N=136
Grade K	Frequencies	32	22	17
	Percentage	10.3	22.2	12.5
Grade 1	Frequencies	45	29	53
	Percentage	14.5	29.3	39.0
Grade 2	Frequencies	56	35	66
	Percentage	18.1	35.4	48.5
Grade 3	Frequencies	127	53	76
	Percentage	41.0	53.5	55.9
Grade 4	Frequencies	210	55	71
	Percentage	67.7	55.6	52.2
Grade 5	Frequencies	235	65	84
	Percentage	75.8	65.7	61.8

**Do gifted teachers and regular education teachers who co-teach have common
planning time?**

Common planning time for gifted and regular education teachers

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
Yes	Frequency	153	47	64	264
	Percentage	42.5	39.8	39.0	41.1
No	Frequency	194	63	87	340

	Percentage	53.9	53.4	53.0	53.0
Don't Know	Frequency	13	8	13	34
	Percentage	3.6	6.8	7.9	5.3
Total	Frequency	360	118	164	642
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Do gifted students at your school participate in cluster grouping (not homogeneous grouping), in which the gifted students stay in the same classroom as the regular education teacher and students, but are purposefully grouped based on ability?

Do gifted students participate in cluster grouping?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
Yes	Frequency	540	229	278	1,047
	Percentage	62.9	59.8	38.9	53.6
No	Frequency	290	128	374	792
	Percentage	33.8	33.4	52.4	40.5
Don't Know	Frequency	28	26	62	116
	Percentage	3.3	6.8	8.7	5.9
Total	Frequency	858	383	714	1,955
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Are tiered instructional activities used with the cluster groups?

Are tiered instructional activities used with the cluster groups?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
Never	Frequency	5	1	3	9
	Percentage	0.9	0.4	1.1	0.9
Rarely	Frequency	46	8	5	59
	Percentage	8.6	3.5	1.8	5.7
Sometimes	Frequency	267	90	64	421
	Percentage	49.7	39.8	23.1	40.5

Frequently	Frequency	163	98	146	407
	Percentage	30.4	43.4	52.7	39.1
Always	Frequency	29	16	44	89
	Percentage	5.4	7.1	15.9	8.6
Don't Know	Frequency	27	13	15	55
	Percentage	5.0	5.8	5.4	5.3
Total	Frequency	537	226	277	1,040
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

Indicate the subject areas and grade levels that use cluster grouping.

Grade levels that use cluster grouping- ELA

		State 1 N=530	State 2 N=219	State 3 N=270
Grade K	Frequency	56	69	91
	Percentage	10.6	31.5	33.7
Grade 1	Frequency	83	107	155
	Percentage	15.7	48.9	57.4
Grade 2	Frequency	114	132	188
	Percentage	21.5	60.3	69.6
Grade 3	Frequency	282	184	216
	Percentage	53.2	84.0	80.0
Grade 4	Frequency	483	196	216
	Percentage	91.1	89.5	80.0
Grade 5	Frequency	494	200	225
	Percentage	93.2	91.3	83.3

Grade levels that use cluster grouping- Math

		State 1 N=524	State 2 N=220	State 3 N=265
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Grade K	Frequency	49	56	82
	Percentage	9.4	25.5	30.9
Grade 1	Frequency	73	88	139
	Percentage	13.9	40.0	52.5
Grade 2	Frequency	95	118	163
	Percentage	18.1	53.6	61.5
Grade 3	Frequency	265	166	198
	Percentage	50.6	75.5	74.7
Grade 4	Frequency	467	181	199
	Percentage	89.1	82.3	75.1
Grade 5	Frequency	483	191	209
	Percentage	92.2	86.8	78.9

How many hours per week of cluster grouping does a typical 5th grade gifted student receive in the regular education reading/English language arts classroom?

Hours per week of cluster grouping that a typical 5th grade gifted student receives in the regular education ELA classroom

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0 hours	Frequency	29	8	31	68
	Percentage	5.7	3.8	12.2	7.0
1 hour	Frequency	30	23	11	64
	Percentage	5.9	11.0	4.3	6.6
2 hours	Frequency	38	24	32	94
	Percentage	7.4	11.4	12.6	9.6
3 hours	Frequency	45	22	24	91
	Percentage	8.8	10.5	9.5	9.3
4 hours	Frequency	22	23	12	57

	Percentage	4.3	11.0	4.7	5.8
5 or more hours	Frequency	299	91	128	518
	Percentage	58.3	43.3	50.4	53.0
Don't Know	Frequency	50	19	16	85
	Percentage	9.8	9.1	6.3	8.7
Total	Frequency	513	210	254	977
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

How many hours per week of cluster grouping does a typical 5th grade gifted student receive in the regular education mathematics classroom?

Hours per week of cluster grouping that a typical 5th grade gifted student receives in the regular education Math classroom

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
0 hours	Frequency	33	15	39	87
	Percentage	6.5	6.8	14.2	8.7
1 hour	Frequency	35	25	16	76
	Percentage	6.9	11.4	5.8	7.6
2 hours	Frequency	37	20	21	78
	Percentage	7.2	9.1	7.6	7.8
3 hours	Frequency	42	17	23	82
	Percentage	8.2	7.7	8.4	8.2
4 hours	Frequency	23	24	15	62
	Percentage	4.5	10.9	5.5	6.2
5 or more hours	Frequency	285	88	121	494
	Percentage	55.8	40.0	44.0	49.1
Don't Know	Frequency	56	31	40	127
	Percentage	11.0	14.1	14.6	12.6
Total	Frequency	511	220	275	1,006

Percentage 100 100 100 100

1. Do gifted students at your school attend homogeneously grouped (by ability or achievement level) classes?

Do gifted students attend homogeneously grouped classes (by ability or achievement level)?

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
Yes	Frequency	379	184	308	871
	Percentage	44.4	48.4	43.3	44.8
No	Frequency	440	171	348	959
	Percentage	51.5	45.0	49.0	49.3
Don't Know	Frequency	35	25	55	115
	Percentage	4.1	6.6	7.7	5.9
Total	Frequency	854	380	711	1,945
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

For each subject area, indicate the grade levels that have homogeneously grouped classes (by ability or achievement level).

Grade levels that have homogeneously grouped classes- ELA

		State 1 N=371	State 2 N=172	State 3 N=285
Grade K	Frequency	41	48	85
	Percentage	11.1	27.9	29.8
Grade 1	Frequency	52	75	144
	Percentage	14.0	43.6	50.5
Grade 2	Frequency	72	90	178
	Percentage	19.4	52.3	62.5
Grade 3	Frequency	180	117	215
	Percentage	48.5	68.0	75.4
Grade 4	Frequency	306	124	228

	Percentage	82.5	72.1	80.0
Grade 5	Frequency	317	136	236
	Percentage	85.4	79.1	82.8

Grade levels that have homogeneously grouped classes- Math

		State 1 N=367	State 2 N=172	State 3 N=284
Grade K	Frequency	33	35	74
	Percentage	9.0	20.4	26.1
Grade 1	Frequency	45	49	130
	Percentage	12.3	28.5	45.8
Grade 2	Frequency	61	67	164
	Percentage	16.6	39.0	57.8
Grade 3	Frequency	171	97	202
	Percentage	46.6	56.4	71.1
Grade 4	Frequency	295	124	218
	Percentage	80.4	72.1	76.8
Grade 5	Frequency	318	137	230
	Percentage	86.7	79.7	81.0

Reassessment Decisions

Are students who were not identified for the gifted program re-assessed to determine eligibility?

Are Non-Identified Students Re-assessed to Determine Eligibility?

	State 1 N=102	State 2 N=144	State 3 N=52
No	5.9%	9.0%	6.1%
Yes, At Regular Intervals	58.4%	54.2%	16.3%

Yes, As Needed	49.0%	52.8%	84.6%
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Are students who have been identified for the program re-assessed to determine continued eligibility?

Are Identified Students Re-assessed to Determine Continued Eligibility?

	State 1 N=103	State 2 N=143	State 3 N=52
No	81.6%	59.4%	94.2%
Yes, At Regular Intervals	10.8%	30.8%	2.0%
Yes, As Needed	10.8%	11.2%	4.1%

Special Activities

Does your district offer special activities for potentially gifted elementary school students from underrepresented populations (i.e., low income, African American, Hispanic or Latino, Native American, English language learners, twice exceptional) that prepare them to be identified for the gifted program?

District Offers Special Activities for Potentially Gifted Elementary School Students from Underrepresented Populations

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	62	99	43	204
	Percentages	60.2	68.3	82.7	68.0
Yes	Frequency	41	46	9	96
	Percentages	39.8	31.7	17.3	32.0
Total	Frequency	103	145	52	300
	Percentages	100	100	100	100

Which of the following piece(s) of evidence does your district use when determining which students should participate in these special activities?

Evidence Used to Determine Student Participate in Special Activities

		State 1 N=41	State 2 N=45	State 3 N=9
Standardized Test	Frequency	17	25	6
	Percentage	41.5	55.6	66.7
Teacher Nominations	Frequency	28	37	6
	Percentage	68.3	82.2	66.7
Parent Nominations	Frequency	14	17	3
	Percentage	34.2	37.8	37.5
Observational Tools/ Checklists	Frequency	24	18	3
	Percentage	58.5	40.0	37.5
Performance-based Assessment	Frequency	17	22	4
	Percentage	41.5	48.9	50.0
Non-Verbal Assessment	Frequency	13	19	4
	Percentage	31.7	42.2	50.0

When are these special activities generally offered?

When are Special Activities Offered?

		State 1 N=41	State 2 N=43	State 3 N=9
During the school day within general education classrooms	Frequency	27	18	3
	Percentage	65.9	41.9	33.3
During the school day outside of general education classrooms	Frequency	24	30	6
	Percentage	58.5	69.8	75.0
Outside of the regular school day	Frequency	7	27	1
	Percentage	17.1	62.8	12.5

Does your district use a specific curriculum to guide these special activities?

District Utilizes Curriculum to Guide Special Activities

		State 1	State 2	State 3	Total
No	Frequency	21	34	5	60
	Percentage	51.2	77.3	55.6	63.8
Yes	Frequency	20	10	4	34
	Percentage	48.8	22.7	44.4	36.2
Total	Frequency	41	44	9	94
	Percentage	100	100	100	100

References: