Cowan

High Ability Information



Identification Assessments

 All Students in Kindergarten, 2nd grade, 4th grade, and 6th grade are given the Cognitive Ability Test (CogAT).

Identification Process

*Cowan's identification process is taken from the High Ability Identification Flowchart created and distributed by Kristie Speirs Neumeister, PH.D. and Ginny Burney, Ph.D.

- Students who score in the 95th age percentile or higher on CogAT are automatically identified as a high ability student.
- If a student's CogAT scores fall in the 90th-94th age percentile, then a SIGS (Scale for Identifying Gifted Students) is completed. A SIGS score of 130 or higher will qualify the student as high ability.
- If a student's CogAT scores fall in the 80th-89th age percentile, then i-Ready scores will be considered as well. Students who score in the 95th percentile, or higher, will qualify for high ability identification.
- If the student's CogAT scores in the 80th-89th age percentile, and i-Ready scores fall in the 90th-94th percentiles, a SIGS will be completed. The student must score 130 or higher on SIGS to be considered for a high ability identification.
- Teacher feedback is also taken into consideration.

• The High Ability Committee will use the identification process to determine students' correct placement.

Appeals Process

A student can be reconsidered for placement in the high ability program by parent or teacher request.

Students will be reevaluated by giving:

- Off level benchmarks
- CogAT
- i-Ready
- SIGS

Exit Procedure

Progress reports will be sent to parents each 9 weeks.

A student can be removed from the High Ability program by:

- Parent Request Must have a conference with the classroom teacher, the High Ability committee, and principal. Once removed, a student must go through the appeals process to be reinstated.
- Teacher Request During the first semester, the teacher must contact parents, and meet with the high ability committee to create an action plan to facilitate success. During the second unsuccessful semester, parents are contacted and the student is removed from the program.