**What does “gifted” mean?**

Although interpretations of the word "gifted" seem limitless, there are a handful of foundational definitions that range from demonstration of a high IQ to those with a broader conception that include multiple criteria that might not be measured through an IQ test.

**National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC):** A gifted person is someone who shows, or has the potential for showing, an exceptional level of performance in one or more areas of expression.

**Columbus Group:** "Giftedness is asynchronous development in which advanced cognitive abilities and heightened intensity combine to create inner experiences and awareness that are qualitatively different from the norm. This asynchrony increases with higher intellectual capacity. The uniqueness of the gifted renders them particularly vulnerable and requires modifications in parenting, teaching and counseling in order for them to develop optimally."

**Renzulli:** Gifted behavior occurs when there is an interaction among three basic clusters of human traits: above-average general and/or specific abilities, high levels of task commitment (motivation), and high levels of creativity. Gifted and talented children are those who possess or are capable of developing this composite of traits and applying them to any potentially valuable area of human performance. As noted in the School-wide Enrichment Model, gifted behaviors can be found "in certain people (not all people), at certain times (not all the time), and under certain circumstances (not all circumstances)."

**Rule 6A-6.03019, Florida Administrative Code,** defines gifted as “one who has superior intellectual development and is capable of high performance.” The rule specifies criteria for eligibility to include:

- A need for a special program;
- A majority of characteristics of gifted students according to a standard scale or checklist;
- Evidence of superior intellectual development as measured by an intelligence quotient of two standard deviations or more above the mean on an individually administered test of intelligence.