IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

DESCRIPTION OF		NAGC	NJ ADMINISTRATIVE
PROGRAM COMPONENT	RATIONALE	PROGRAM STANDARDS	CODE/LAW
Identification Process	Identification measures were selected to	2.1 Identification. All students in	6A:8-3.1(a)(5)
1. Referrals through	cast a wide net to "find" all students	grades Pre-K – 12 have equal access	District boards of
multiple pathways:	who will benefit from services and	to a comprehensive assessment	education shall be
Teachers	programs for gifted learners.	system that allows them to	responsible for
Parents/Guardians		demonstrate diverse characteristics	identifying gifted and
Assessment Score	Teachers and parents are invited to	and behaviors that are associated	talented students and
Review	refer students for consideration for	with giftedness.	shall provide them with
a. CogAT	gifted services. In addition, district	2.1.3. Educators use universal	appropriate
b. District	personnel will review achievement and	screening and multiple indicators of	instructional
Achievement	aptitude scores (universal screening	potential and achievement at various	adaptations and
Benchmarks	procedures) to include those students	grade levels from Pre-K through	services.
	who may not have been referred by	grade 12 to provide multiple entry	District boards of
2. Data Collection	teachers or parents in the identification	points to services designed to meet	education shall make
(collected for all	process. Data will be collected and	demonstrated needs.	provisions for an
referred students)	reviewed for all referred students,	2.2.2. Educators select and use	ongoing K-12
Grades K-8	regardless of the source of the referral.	assessments that relate to services	identification process
 CogAT (Aptitude) 	This inclusive referral process enhances	provided and identify abilities,	for gifted and talented
 Benchmark 	the likelihood that learners who are	interests, strengths, and needs	students that includes
Assessments	traditionally under-represented in gifted	based on current research.	multiple measures.
(Achievement)	programs are not overlooked.	2.2.3. Educators use assessments	
∘ Math		that provide qualitative and	Chapter 338:
o ELA	Multiple measures, including	quantitative information from a	Strengthening Gifted
 Teacher Rating 	quantitative and qualitative measures,	variety of sources.	and Talented
Scales	have been selected to ensure that	2.3.1. Educators select and use	Education Act
Parent Rating Scales	diverse abilities and strengths are	equitable approaches and	C.18A:35-36
	recognized and considered, regardless	assessments that minimize bias for	A board of education
3. Data Interpretation	of race, gender, culture, or economic	referring and identifying students	shall:
and Selection	status. Particular attention has been	with gifts and talents, attending to	

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Student Profile	given to select measures that are not	segments of the population that are	(2) make provisions
 Score range 	biased against students with ELL, IEP or	frequently hidden or under	for an ongoing
 Local norms 	504 designations.	identified. Approaches and tools	kindergarten through
Selection		may include front-loading talent	grade 12
committee	Score data is organized in an individual	development activities, universal	identification process
recommends	student profile. Scores are reported as	screening, using locally developed	for gifted and
services	ranges, rather than a single score,to	norms, assuring assessment tools are	talented students that
based on student	consider the variability of student	in the child's preferred language for	includes multiple
need	performance on any given measure at	communication or nonverbal	measures in order to
	any given time. A profile provides a	formats, and building relationships	identify student
4. Notify parents	clear picture of each student's strengths	with students to understand their	strengths in
/guardians, teachers	and educational need, which is	unique challenges and needs.	intellectual ability,
and students of	preferable to single score	2.4.4. Educators use and interpret	creativity, or a specific
committee	interpretations. *	qualitative and quantitative	academic area. School
recommendations.		assessment information to develop a	districts shall ensure
	A selection committee meets to	profile of the interests, strengths	equal access to a
Appeals Process:	consider each referred student's profile.	and needs of each student with gifts	continuum of gifted
• Parents or students may	The committee recommends services to	and talents to plan appropriate	and talented
appeal the selection	meet the student's educational needs. A	interventions.	education services.
committee's	committee approach when decision-		
recommendations.	making further reduces bias in the		The identification
Written notification	identification process.		process shall include
must be given to the			consideration of all
school stating the	To insure communication and		students, including
reasons for appeal.	encourage partnerships,		those who are English
A meeting will be	parents/guardians and teachers are		language learners and
scheduled with a school	notified of the committee's		those with
representative to	recommendations.		Individualized
discuss the appeal.			Education Plans or
Parents or students			504 plans.
have the right to appeal			
to the Board of			
Trustees, and if not			

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satisfied, to the NJ		
Commissioner of		
Education.		
Outside Testing:		
Outside testing will be		
considered in addition to		
data collected by district,		
<u>not to replace</u> data		
collected during		
identification.		

* Johnsen, S.K. (2004) Identifying Gifted Students: A practical guide. Publication of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

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Recommendation for exit	with the added benefit of having	cultivate social and emotional and	Chapter 338:
from the program may be	consistent access to academic peers.	psychosocial skills that support high	Strengthening Gifted and
initiated at any time by the	This grouping model fosters the	achievement and talent development.	Talented Education Act
classroom teacher, the	academic and affective growth of	3.4.2. Instructional Strategies	A board of education shall
teacher responsible for	learners in a safe and challenging	Educators provide opportunities for	ensure that appropriate
gifted services, a	environment. In addition to the	students with gifts and talents to	instructional adaptations
counselor/school	benefits for gifted learners, research	explore, develop, or research in	and educational services
psychologist, the	suggests that all students, including	existing domain(s) of talent and/or in	are provided to gifted and
parent/guardian, or the	average and below average learners,	new areas of interest	talented students in
student.	benefit when placed in a	3.5.3. Educators scaffold independent	kindergarten through
	heterogeneous classroom organized	research skills within students' domain(s) of talent	grade 12 to enable them
The request for exit should	by a cluster model.**	4.2.2. Learning Environment Educators	to participate in, benefit from, and demonstrate
be made to the teacher		provide opportunities for interaction	knowledge and application
responsible for gifted	General education teachers that are	and learning with intellectual and	of the New Jersey Student
services, who will then hold	trained in the cluster model develop	artistic/creative peers as well as with	Learning Standards at the
a meeting to discuss the	the capacity to differentiate	chronological-age peers.	instructional level of the
concerns. Those invited to	effectively for all learners, including	5.5 Programming:	student.
the meeting may include	gifted learners. The cluster model is	Comprehensiveness. Students with	
the parent/guardian, the	efficient from a program	gifts and talents develop their	A board of education
classroom teacher(s), the	implementation standpoint, since	potential through comprehensive,	shall:
building administrator, and	students are grouped purposefully,	aligned programming and services.	(1) ensure that
a counselor/school	creating a more manageable	5.1.1. Educators use multiple	appropriate instructional
psychologist.	situation for teachers.	approaches to accelerate learning	adaptations are designed
		within and outside of the school	for students who are
If a plan has been	Administrators and the school	setting.	gifted and talented;
developed to support the	community benefit from a cost-	5.1.2. Educators use enrichment	develop and document
student's continued	efficient program that delivers	options to extend and deepen	appropriate curricular and
participation, a second	appropriate gifted education	learning opportunities within and outside of the school setting.	instructional modifications
meeting will be held to	services to students on a full-time	5.1.3. Educators use multiple forms of	used for gifted and talented students
evaluate the student's	basis.	evidence-based grouping, including	indicating content,
progress and determine		clusters, resource rooms, special	process, products, and
continued participation or		classes, or special schools.	learning environment, and
		, ,	including, but not limited
			<u>,</u>

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withdrawal from the	5.2.2. Educators develop a pre-K to, additional education
program.	through grade 12 continuum of activities such as academic
	programming and services in relevant competitions, guest
	student talent areas that is responsive speakers, and lessons with
	to students' different levels of need a specialist.
	for intervention.
	5.4.1. Collaboration. Educators
	regularly engage students, other
	educators, families, advocates, and
	community members in collaboration
	to plan, advocate for, implement, and
	evaluate systematic, comprehensive,
	and ongoing services.
	5.6.2. Policy and Regulation Educators
	align programming and services with
	local, state, or national laws, rules,
	regulations, and standards.

**Gentry MI. Promoting students achievement and exemplary classroom practices through cluster grouping. Storrs Ct. NRCGT RM

PROGRAM STAFFING

DESCRIPTION OF		NAGC	NJ ADMINISTRATIVE
PROGRAM COMPONENT	RATIONALE	PROGRAM STANDARDS	CODE/LAW
Personnel needed to	The selection committee is charged	5.5.1. Administrators	N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1(a)
implement the program as	with collecting and interpreting	demonstrate support for	District boards of education
planned:	student profile data to make	gifted programming and	shall develop appropriate
	recommendations for educational	services through equitable	curricular and instructional
Selection Committee	services that meet student need. A	allocation of resources and	modifications used for gifted
Members	committee approach to decision-	demonstrated willingness to	and talented students
Facilitate the	making reduces bias and embraces a	ensure that students with gifts	indicating content, process,
identification process	consensus approach to identification.	and talents receive consistent	products, and learning
Evaluate identification		educational services aligned	environment.
process annually		to their interests, strengths,	
		and needs.	District boards of education
Cluster teachers	Cluster teachers at each grade level		shall take into consideration
One general education	can deliver gifted services within the	5.5.2. Administrators track	the Pre-K–Grade 12 Gifted
teacher at each grade level	heterogeneous classroom. This	expenditures at the school	Programming Standards of the
will be needed to serve as	model is cost-effective, yet highly	level to verify appropriate and	National Association for Gifted
the "cluster teacher" for	effective in meeting advanced	sufficient funding for staffing,	Children in developing
each classroom in which a	learners' needs since it is a full-time	curriculum and materials,	programs for gifted and
cluster of gifted learners is	solution. *	gifted programming, and	talented students.
placed.		services.	
			Chapter 338: Strengthening
Teachers to facilitate PBL	A well-trained teacher to facilitate	5.5.3. Administrators hire a	Gifted and Talented
Investigations	PBL Investigations insures	diverse pool of educators with	Education Act
(INNOVATORS) and	appropriately challenging inquiry	knowledge and profession	
provide direct instruction in	experiences for gifted learners.		C.18A:35-36 (3)
research, critical and			develop and document
creative thinking skills.			appropriate curricular and
			instructional modifications
			used for gifted and talented

Comprehensive Program Plan

Teachers to facilitate Talent	Educators who are responsible for	students indicating content,
Development	delivery of talent development	process, products, and
Opportunities (clubs,	opportunities are needed to facilitate	learning environment, and
special programs, etc.)	a range of clubs, special programs,	including, but not limited to,
	etc. Options for talent development	additional education activities
	give students the opportunity to	such as academic
	develop strengths and talents in	competitions, guest speakers,
	their area of interest.	and lessons with a specialist
		C.18A:35-37 (b. 4)
		Each school district shall file
		with the coordinator a report
		by October 1, 2020 and
		thereafter on a schedule that
		coincides with the school
		district's New Jersey Quality
		Single Accountability
		Continuum review pursuant to
		section 11 of P.L.1975, c.212
		(C.18A:7A-11). The report
		shall include:
		the number of staff employed
		by the school district whose
		job responsibilities include
		identification of and providing
		services to gifted and
		talented students.

*Winebrenner, S. & Brulles, D. (2008). The Cluster Grouping Handbook: How to challenge gifted students and improve achievement for all. Minneapolis, MN. Free Spirit Publishing.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM		NAGC	NJ ADMINISTRATIVE
COMPONENT	RATIONALE	PROGRAM STANDARDS	CODE/LAW
Professional Development for:	Teachers who are referring	6. Professional Learning	N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1(a)(5)
All Educators	students for consideration for	6.1.2. State agencies,	District boards of education
Identification process and	gifted services should receive	institutions of higher	shall provide appropriate
what to look for when making	training in the characteristics of	education, schools and	kindergarten through-grade-12
a referral.	gifted learners and the ways in	districts provide sustained	(K-12) educational services for
• Needs and characteristics of	which demonstrated and potential	professional learning for	gifted and talented students.
gifted learners	giftedness might be recognized.	educators that models	
	Trained teachers identify more	how to develop learning	District boards of education
	students (85%) than those without	environments responsive	shall develop appropriate
Administrators	training (40%). *	to diversity and	curricular and instructional
Identification process		instructional activities that	modifications used for gifted
• Rationale and implementation	Administrators are key players in	lead to student expression	and talented students
of Cluster Grouping Model	implementing the program. They	of diverse characteristics	indicating content, process,
• Supervisory and observation	must be equipped to make	and behaviors that are	products, and learning
protocols that support	informed decisions about allocation	associated with giftedness.	environment.
differentiation for advanced	of resources, personnel allocation,	6.1.4. Administrators plan	
learners and fidelity to	and program decisions such as	for, budget and provide	District boards of education
program goals.	grouping. In addition, it falls to	sufficient human and	shall take into consideration
	administrators to insure adherence	material resources needed	the Pre-K–Grade 12 Gifted
Cluster Teachers	to the mission and intent of the	for professional learning in	Programming Standards of the
Characteristics/Needs of	program developers. Additional	gifted education (e.g.,	National Association for Gifted
Gifted Learners	tools for observation and	release time, funding for	Children in developing
Rationale for Cluster	supervision of those responsible for	continuing education,	programs for gifted and
Grouping	program implementation will be	substitute support,	talented students.
Assessment including	necessary.	webinars, and/or mentors).	
curriculum compacting and		Administrators access Title	
pre-assessment tools		I and Title II funds as	

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Modifying curriculum to	Cluster teachers must be provided	allowed under the Every	Chapter 338: Strengthening
develop advanced learning	the time and resources to	Student Succeeds Act	Gifted and Talented
tasks (ongoing work sessions)	effectively meet the needs of	(ESSA) to meet this	Education Act
Differentiating instruction to	identified learners in the general	expectation.	C.18A:35-36 (5,6)
manage a cluster classroom	education classroom. Modifying	6.2.1. Educators	Provide the time and
(ongoing work sessions)	curriculum and differentiating	participate in ongoing	resources to develop, review,
	instruction for advanced learners	professional learning to	and enhance instructional
Teachers facilitating PBL	are complex tasks that will require	understand and apply	tools with modifications for
investigations (INNOVATORS)	on-going and in-depth training.	research to practice with	helping gifted and talented
Revise existing curriculum to	Research suggests that trained	regard to psychosocial	students acquire and
insure appropriately	teachers have a more positive	skills necessary for the	demonstrate mastery of the
differentiated content,	attitude toward gifted learners and	development of gifts and	required knowledge and skills
process and products for	are more effective differentiators in	talents and social-	specified by the standards at
gifted learners.	the classroom.** This capacity for	emotional development of	the instructional level of the
• Development of management	effective differentiation benefits all	individuals with gifts and	student; and
tools	students in the class.	talents.	
		6.3.1. Educators	Actively assist and support
	Talent development for all	participate in professional	professional development for
School Counselors	students will allow opportunities for	learning focused on	teachers, educational services
Characteristics and needs of	all students to engage with	curriculum and pedagogy	staff, and school leaders in
gifted learners (focus on	educational tasks that are based in	that are responsive to	the area of gifted and
social-emotional needs)	gifted pedagogy. Teachers who are	diversity for individuals	talented instruction.
Strategies and interventions	facilitating these courses must	with gifts and talents.	
to support gifted learners	understand the unique	6.3.2. Educators recognize	C.18A:35-37 (b. 4)
	characteristics and learning needs	their biases, develop	Each school district shall file
	of gifted students. Teachers must	philosophies responsive to	with the coordinator a report
	be given the tools and	diversity, commit	by October 1, 2020 and
	understandings they will need to	themselves to removing	thereafter on a schedule that
	deliver courses that will provide	barriers, and create	coincides with the school
	access to traditionally under-	inclusive learning	district's New Jersey Quality
	represented populations in a	environments that meet	Single Accountability
	meaningful way.	the educational interests,	Continuum review pursuant to
		strengths, and needs of	section 11 of P.L.1975, c.212

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Gifted learners have affective needs that at times may require intervention by school counselors . To effectively serve these students, counselors must understand gifted learners' needs and have a toolbox of strategies to support these learners.	diverse students with gifts and talents. 6.4.2. Educators participate in professional learning that is sustained over time, incorporates collaboration and reflection, is goal-aligned and data-driven, is coherent, embedded and transferable, includes regular follow-up, and seeks evidence of positive impact on teacher practice and on increased student	(C.18A:7A-11). The report shall include:

* Gear, G. (1978). Effects of training on teachers' accuracy in identifying gifted children. *Gifted Child Quarterly*, 22, 90-97.
** Hansen, J. B. & Feldhusen, J. F. (1994). Comparison of Trained and Untrained Teachers of Gifted Students. *Gifted Child Quarterly*, 38,3. Archambault, F.X., Jr., Westberg, K.L., Brown, S. W., Hallmark, B.W., Emmons, C.L., & Zhang, W. (1993). *Regular classroom practices with gifted students: Results of a national survey of classroom teachers* (Research Monograph 93102). Storrs, CT. Westberg, K. & Daoust, M. (2003). *The results of the replication of the classroom practices survey replication in two states*. Fall Newsletter. National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented.

PROGRAM EVALUATION & COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

DESCRIPTION OF		NAGC	NJ ADMINISTRATIVE
PROGRAM COMPONENT	RATIONALE	PROGRAM STANDARDS	CODE/LAW
Annual survey of	Evaluation is essential to program	5.7.1. Educators assess the	Chapter 338: Strengthening
Students	success and improvement.* All aspects	quantity and quality of	Gifted and Talented
 Parents/Guardians 	of the program are reviewed to make	programming and services	Education Act C.18A:35-37
Teachers	informed decisions about the	provided for students with	Each school district shall file
	effectiveness of all program	gifts and talents by	with the coordinator a report.
Program Documents	components.	disaggregating	The report shall include, but
• Professional development		assessment and yearly	not be limited to:
notes	Information can be collected as the	progress data and making	(1) the gifted and talented
Communication with	program is being implemented to	the results public.	continuum of services,
stakeholders	adjust to immediate student need. This	5.7.2. Educators ensure	policies, and procedures
Observation data from	type of information might be student	that the assessments used	implemented in the school
cluster classrooms	work samples, observation data from	in program evaluation are	district;
• Student work samples	the classroom, feedback from	reliable and valid for the	(2) the total number of
Identification data	professional development sessions,	purposes for which they	students receiving gifted and
	Selection Committee notes, and	are being used.	talented services in each
Annual Report to Board of	informal communication from	5.8.1. Administrators	grade level kindergarten
Trustees	stakeholders.	provide the necessary time	through grade 12
• Public meeting to insure		and resources to	disaggregated by race,
transparency	Survey data is collected from key	implement an annual	gender, special education
• How results of evaluation	stakeholders at the end of each school	evaluation plan developed	designation, and English
will be used to make	year. Along with program documents,	by persons with expertise	language learner designation;
program improvements	including identification data, the	in program evaluation and	(3) the professional
	information is reviewed by district	gifted education.	development opportunities
Website Presence	designees.	5.8.2. Educators create	provided for teachers,
Identification process		and implement evaluation	educational services staff, and
Referral process	The results of the evaluation and	plans that are purposeful	school leaders about gifted
Identification criteria	recommendations for improvements	and evaluate how student-	and talented students, their
considered	are presented to the Board annually in	level outcomes are	

Comprehensive Program Plan

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the identification	

* Tomlinson, C., Bland, L., Moon, T., & Callahan,C. (1994). Case studies of evaluation utilization in gifted education. *Evaluation Practice*, 15. VanTassel-Baska, J. (2006). A content analysis of evaluation findings across 20 gifted programs. *Gifted Child Quarterly*, 50. Yarborough, D., Shulha,L., Hopson, R., & Caruthers,F. (2011). *The program evaluation standards: A guide for evaluators and users*. CA: Sage

DEFINITION:

Golden Door Charter School defines gifted students as "those exceptionally able pupils who possess or demonstrate high levels of abilities, in one or more content areas, when compared to their chronological peers in the school and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities."

MISSION:

It is our belief that all students benefit from opportunities to pursue interests and develop talents. We are committed to providing challenging learning experiences so gifted learners can reach their academic and personal potential. It is our goal to provide opportunities for gifted learners to develop the thinking dispositions and affective skills such as risk taking, curiosity, and intrinsic motivation necessary for them to become independent learners and leaders.

GOALS:

- Develop the academic potential of identified gifted learners.
- Encourage and challenge students in their areas of specific abilities and interest by providing opportunities for in-depth learning in their area of talent and interest.
- Develop the thinking dispositions and affective skills such as risk taking, curiosity, and intrinsic motivation necessary for students to become independent learners.
- Encourage opportunities for interaction with academic peers to develop self-awareness and self-efficacy.
- Development of social and leadership skills, fostering a sense of societal responsibility.
- Encourage creative productivity through the development of higher order thinking skills such as problem solving, decisionmaking and critical thinking in all students.
- Foster ongoing professional development to support classroom differentiation of content, process and product.