



# **Merkel ISD**

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM**

### **DEFINITION**

MERKEL ISD defines gifted and talented as any child or youth in grades K-12 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:

- (1) Exhibits high performance capability in general intellectual ability; or
- (2) Excels in one or more specific academic fields: math, science, language arts, and/or social studies

### **MISD GOAL**

Students who participate in services designed for gifted students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment and that reflect individuality and creativity.



# Merkel ISD

## GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

### PROGRAM GOALS

1. Identification - Identify students in grades K-12 who demonstrated an academic need for gifted services using the criteria established by the district, approved by the board, and in compliance with the state mandates.
2. Self-directed learners - Develop the students' capacities to become self-directed and to be confident in their ability to research and process information and to create and communicate their findings as they produce and present advanced-level products or performances as well as products and performances of professional quality at the high school exit level.
3. Complex thinking skills - Enhance and refine the abstract and complex thinking and reasoning of these students through more sophisticated creative and critical thinking activities as they reflect and refine their own thinking processes.
4. Appropriate instructional strategies - Provide students with multiple opportunities to participate in learning experiences using advanced content (within the four core areas) which are defensibly differentiated in depth, complexity and range through modification to content and/or process and/or product. Students will be able to work independently, with groups of other gifted students, and with groups of non-gifted peers.

### Link to handbook

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1p9sm9ISk9yilEJzZ5qksD2Lh2R6GhHrq1IntJTqVaEg/edit?usp=sharing>