

**Policy Statement #2350 (Instruction) of the Board of Education Regarding
Programs for Gifted, Talented and Advanced Learning Students**

I. Purpose

- A. To ensure that students who are gifted and talented are appropriately identified and receive services to develop their highest potential in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland and Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR).
- B. To ensure that differentiated educational programs and/or services are systemically provided for formally identified gifted and talented students in Grades K-12. Students in this population will include gifted and talented ELL students as well as students with learning disabilities served by Calvert County Public Schools.
- C. To ensure that all gifted and talented students are offered specialized services at an appropriate level and pace of instruction in each school within the district.
- D. To establish the guidelines for formal identification, procedures including the use of universal screening; articulate instructional expectations via services, supports, and/or programs; embrace the need for purposeful and sustained professional learning associated with best practices in gifted education.

II. Definitions

- A. Advanced Learners: Students who are formally identified and placed into one of the three levels of advanced learning services within Calvert County Public Schools. Typically determined by norm-referenced test scores of ability or achievement which fall above the 90th percentile range.
- B. Gifted and Talented: Students who are identified as:
 - 1. Having outstanding talent and performing, or showing the potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with other students of a similar age, experience, or environment;
 - 2. Exhibiting high performance capability in intellectual, creative, or artistic areas;
 - 3. Possessing an unusual leadership capacity; or
 - 4. Excelling in specific academic fields.
- C. Primary Talent Development (PTD): PTD is a collection of K-2 science-based curriculum modules which contain instructional guidelines and strategies for open-ended problem-solving learning experiences to challenge all students.
- D. Twice Exceptional: A term used to describe a student who is both gifted and has a learning difference or disability.

III. Policy Statement

- A. The Board of Education acknowledges that Gifted and Talented students are found in all schools, in all grade levels, and come from all racial, cultural, ethnic, and economic strata. Therefore, Calvert County Public Schools will identify and equitably serve each student. The Board also acknowledges that some students have already been formally identified for specialized services and therefore require supports for their area of gifted ability.
 - B. Through this policy, the Board commits to the fundamental principles of equity and excellence in identifying and serving our students who are Gifted and Talented. The Board recognizes the importance of providing different services beyond those normally provided by the regular school program from an annually reviewed Maryland State Department of Education approved list of programs and services in order to develop the gifted and talented student's potential as required by COMAR 13A.04.07. The Board directs the Superintendent to implement procedures to achieve the goals of this policy statement.
- IV. Delegation of Authority
- A. The Superintendent is directed to implement this policy in accordance to COMAR 13A.04.07.03 in accordance with all state and federal laws and regulations as well as communicate this policy to all relevant parties.
- V. Exceptions
- A. There are no exceptions to this policy. However, the Board by majority vote may temporarily suspend all or part of this policy. Suspension of all or part of this policy, however, in no way relieves the Board of its obligation to comply with the pertinent local, state and federal laws and regulations or the rules and regulations of the Maryland State Board of Education and the Maryland State Department of Education.
- VI. Review
- A. This policy will be reviewed at the end of three years, or sooner, if approved by majority vote of the Board of Education in public session.
- VII. Effective Date
- A. This policy is effective June 11, 2020

Citations

State Law: Legal Authority § 5-401, MD. CODE ANN., EDUC. §§ 8-201-202, MD. CODE ANN., EDUC.
COMAR 13A.04.07, Equity 1015