

Calico Rock Gifted and Talented Identification Process

Referral Process: Students may be referred for the gifted and talented program by teachers, parents, community members, or by themselves at any time during the school year. Students are not identified and placed for direct services until they enter the **fourth grade**. The referral forms can be requested from classroom teachers or the GT coordinator. The completed form must be returned to the GT coordinator. A letter will be sent to the parents of a referred student, asking permission to collect screening information and administer tests to the student. **No student will be tested individually without parental consent.**

Testing Information: After permission is received, the GT coordinator will collect data from parents and teachers. Information may come from, but is not limited to, the following sources: Arkansas Benchmark Exams, STAR math, Otis Lennon School Ability Test, Williams Creativity Test, Scholastic Reading Counts, Parent Surveys, and Teacher Surveys.

Identification: All data about the student is analyzed by a committee of school personnel chaired by the GT coordinator. Calico Rock School District uses a “blind screening” to ensure fairness. Each student is assigned a number, which is placed on their profile sheet. The committee only sees the number, not the student’s name, when they are analyzing the data for placement. Parents will be notified by letter of the committee’s decision. If a student is recommended for placement, the parent must give written consent for the child to participate. If the committee decides that a student does not require services, the parents will be notified by letter. Parents have the right to appeal the committee’s decision by sending a letter to the GT coordinator within ten days of notification of non-placement. The GT coordinator will contact the parent by phone. If necessary, the appeal may be brought before the identification committee. The committee will make the final decision and the parent will be notified by letter.