

## **THE MISSISSIPPI GIFTED EDUCATION ACT OF 1989, AS AMENDED IN 1993**

This act mandates that each public school district within the state provide gifted education programs for intellectually gifted students in grades 2-6. "Intellectually Gifted Children" shall mean those children and youth who are found to have an exceptionally high degree of intelligence as documented through the identification process.

### **PURPOSE**

To identify those students who demonstrate unusually high achievement and/or potential for unusually high achievement. Because of their unusual capabilities, they require uniquely qualitatively differentiated educational programs not usually available in the regular classroom. These uniquely different programs are required to enable the gifted students to realize their potential contributions to self and society. Programming is offered through pull-out program resource program. Mississippi regulations require that intellectually gifted students be provided services by properly endorsed teacher in a resource room for a minimum of five hours per week.

## **RECOMMENDED WEB SITES**

- ⇒ **MDE Regulations and Standards**  
<http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ESE/ALGP>
- ⇒ **Mississippi Association for Gifted Children**  
<https://www.magcgifted.org/>
- ⇒ **National Association for Gifted Children**  
<https://www.nagc.org/>
- ⇒ **OSSD Website- Connections**  
<https://www.ossdms.org/apps/pages/Connections>

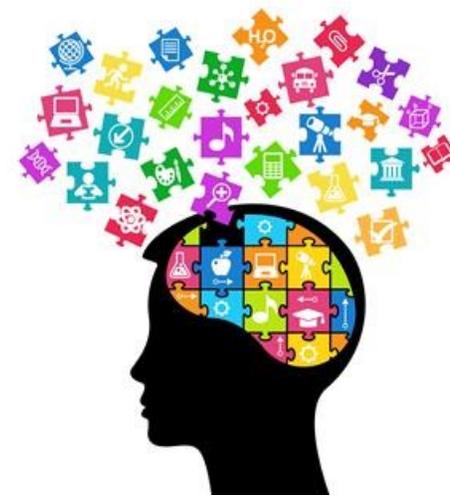
## **TEACHER REQUIREMENTS**

A teacher of the gifted is required to hold an educator's license and an endorsement in gifted education from the Mississippi Department of Education. The teachers participate in training sessions and conferences in order to keep abreast of trends and developments in gifted education. In addition, the O.S. School District annually develops a specific plan for its teachers that addresses the needs of the gifted.

## **REFERRAL PROCESS**

Teacher, parent, and student referrals for the gifted program, for grades 1-6, are accepted. All requests for testing should be directed via email to the student's homeroom teacher and/or the gifted teacher of that campus. The State of Mississippi mandates the assessment and placement process to be completed in a timely manner. Testing periods will be designated by OSSD Student Services and Phase I testing will be administered in the spring and fall of each year for all referrals. Students new to the Ocean Springs School District can be tested after their first nine weeks of attendance. Students will only be tested twice by the district. A blanket screener will be administered to all first and second graders.

# **CONNECTIONS**



**CONNECTING  
TALENTS AND GIFTS  
FOR THE FUTURE**

**OCEAN SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**OCEAN SPRINGS, MS**

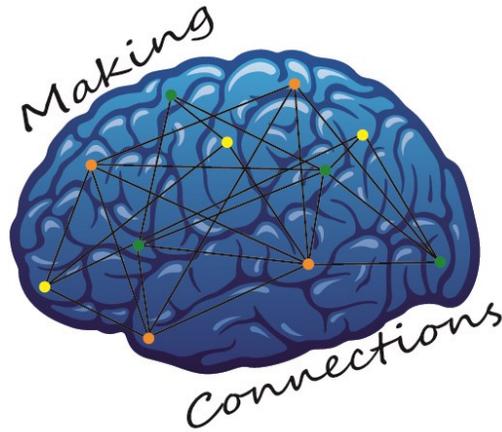
## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Ocean Springs School District program for intellectually gifted is to create a learning environment that fosters and encourages thinking, creativity, metacognition, healthy enriching relationships and appropriate expectations, and understanding of self.

## GOAL

To provide a qualitatively, differentiated curriculum through in-depth enrichment and extension of core curriculum in order to develop and maintain our students' commitment to the love of learning as a lifelong process.

To help students understand themselves, develop social interest and feeling of belonging in order to assist them in reaching their intellectual potential.



## CURRICULUM

Differentiated curriculum in the intellectually gifted class, **Connections**, develops and enhances the process skills set by MDE. Gifted education experiences are qualitatively different from the skills and concepts covered in the general education setting. The activities enhance the integration of advanced content and individual student's interests utilizing higher-level thinking skills, problem solving, critical thinking skills, research skills, personal growth and human relations exercises, leadership skills, and creative expression. Activities also create an appreciation for the multicultural composition of the school and community.

## CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

The students meet together for a minimum of 5 hours per week. Program activities involve specific process skills and in-depth content based upon student interest and Howard Gardner's multiple intelligences.

## STUDENT PROGRESS

An instructional management plan is utilized to evaluate student progress based upon the scope and sequence for each grade level. The form is completed each semester by the teacher and the student. Each student is reassessed annually based upon their participation in the gifted program.

