

Amherst Exempted Village Schools

Administration

Steven Sayers, Superintendent
440-988-4406

Michael Molnar, Assistant Superintendent
440-988-4406

Steele High School, 440-988-4433

Joseph Tellier, Principal

Ashley Harigan, Associate Principal (9-10)

Steve Meggitt, Assistant Principal (11-12)

Amherst Junior High School, 440-988-0324

Andrew Gibson, Principal

Rhonda Neuhoff, Assistant Principal

Nord Middle School, 440-988-4441

Jill Jiovanazzo, Principal

Corrie Engle, Dean of Students

Powers Elementary School, 440-988-8670

Beth Schwartz, Principal

Psychologists

Andrea Massie, Powers Elementary

Yvette Cable, Nord Middle School and
Amherst Junior High

Megan Jarmusz Steele High Schools

Guidance Counselors

Joanne Carnabuci, Amherst Jr. High and
Nord Middle

Mary Scott Williams, Amherst Junior High

Mary Jane Loushin, High School (A-G)

Sarah Rigda, High School (H-O)

Robert Harcula, High School (P-Z)

EMIS Coordinator

Jenna Porostosky
440-988-1979

The ESC of Lorain County Gifted Consortium sponsors professional development for gifted educators as well as special events for gifted students that align specific curriculum to state standards:

Professional Development

Three gifted educator workshops at the ESC
Small group in-district sessions upon request

Gifted Enrichment Opportunities

Visual Arts Identification Day

Classroom Attorney Workshops

Mock Trial

24 Game Finals

LCCC Fab Cab

SpherOlympics

ACT Practice Testing

Classroom Artist Workshops

Young Authors



*Educational Service Center
of Lorain County*

ESC of Lorain County
1885 Lake Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035
440-324-5777
www.esclc.org

ESC Gifted Supervisors
Mark Millar
millar@esclc.org
440-324-5777 x1135

Cathy Fischer
fischer@esclc.org
440-324-5777 x1158

Parent Information

Educational Programming for Identified Academically Talented Students



AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

2018-2019

145 Forest Street
Amherst, OH 44001

www.amherstk12.org

or

ESC of Lorain County
Programs and Services for gifted students:

www.esclc.org

Identification

The identification process is in compliance with the Ohio Department of Education guidelines, and uses only nationally normed tests on the state approved list. Subjective criteria are not used.

Referral: Students can be referred for assessment by parents, teachers, or students twice a year. Referral forms are available in the office of each school building or at www.esclc.org.

Screening: Students are screened in grade 3 using the InView test of cognitive abilities and the Terra Nova (CTBS/5).

Assessment: Following screening, small group and individual assessment are provided for potentially gifted students using the CogAT, Woodcock-Johnson, Metropolitan, OLSAT, or Stanford. Small group assessments in grades 4-7 will be administered using the OLSAT Test of cognitive abilities.

Assurances: The district meets the ODE requirements for evaluation of students who are culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, students with physical and sensory disabilities and students who have limited English proficiency. The district identifies using only state approved tests which are administered by trained personnel.

Written Education Plans: Education plans are written for all students who are identified and served on a one-year basis.

Outside Testing: The district will accept outside testing for gifted if the test is on the state approved list, and was conducted in the previous twenty four months.

Transfer Students: The district will review testing from previous schools to determine whether students qualify for services in Amherst. Scores need to be from the previous twenty four months.

Acceleration: The district has a state approved plan in place. The specific referral, screening and assessment process is detailed on the Amherst Schools or ESC websites.

Appeal: The district has an appeals process for decisions regarding screening and identification. The initial step in the process is to submit a written statement to the building principal explaining your reason for the appeal of identification.

Waiver: The district has a waiver of assignments procedure in place.
Withdrawal: The district has procedures by which the parents can withdraw their students from services. Parents should contact their Gifted Supervisor or Gifted Intervention Specialist for an initial conference. Withdrawal requires parent permission.

Program Services

Grade 4/5 Reading

The curriculum is grade-enriched and content extends beyond the grade level standards. The content is enriched in breadth, depth and complexity.

Grade 4/5 Math

The curriculum is accelerated and the content goes beyond the grade level standards and differentiates the curriculum to meet the higher ability levels through enrichment and compacting.

Grades 6 Advanced Language Arts

The curriculum is grade-enriched and content extends beyond the grade level standards. The content is enriched in breadth, depth and complexity.

Grades 6 Advanced Math

The curriculum is grade-enriched and content extends beyond the grade level standards. The content is enriched in breadth, depth and complexity.

.Grades 7-8 Language Arts with Enrichment

1-1/2 time block

The curriculum is accelerated and the content goes beyond the grade level standards and differentiates the curriculum to meet the higher ability levels through enrichment and compacting.

Grade 7-8 Math

Grade 7: Algebra 1

Grade 8: Geometry

Must meet selection criteria. Math classes fulfill the requirements for high school credit and overall high school GPA.

Written Education Plans

All students identified and served in a gifted program must be on a Written Education Plan (WEP) in compliance with the Ohio Operating Standards. Service is reported to the Ohio Department of Education Office for Exceptional Children.

Identification for District Service

Grades 4-6 Language Arts and Math

Superior cognitive ability and/or 95% in specific academic areas: Reading and/or Math. Only students identified with superior cognitive ability or a 95% in a specific academic area will be on a WEP.

Subjective recommendations are not acceptable criteria. Identified gifted students may be served through self-contained classes, clustered classrooms, the resource room, special events, enrichment/mini-courses and extensions to the curriculum.

Grades 7-8 Language Arts and Math

Superior cognitive ability and/or 95% in specific academic areas: Reading and/or Math. Must meet criteria on placement rubric. For Grade 7 Algebra I and Grade 8 Geometry, only students identified with superior cognitive ability or a 95% in a specific academic area will be on a WEP.

Subjective recommendations are not acceptable criteria. Identified gifted students may be served through self-contained classes, clustered classrooms, the resource room, special events, enrichment/mini-courses and extensions to the curriculum.

Gifted Identification Notice

The Amherst Exempted Village Schools gifted identification plan identifies students in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, and visual and/or performing arts ability. The identification process consists of three phases: pre-assessment, assessment for screening, and assessment for identification. Parents are notified within 30 days of the results.

Specific criteria for identification are used for each area. Teachers, parents, or students may refer children for identification by completing and submitting a referral form available at each building or at www.esclc.org, Gifted and Talented section. More information can be obtained by contacting ESC Gifted Supervisors at 440-324-5777 x1135 or x1158.