

Woodridge School District 68
Office of Teaching and Learning
Scales for Identifying Gifted Students (SIGS)
Fact Sheet

Woodridge District 68

Definition of Gifted

Gifted students are those who perform or show the potential for performing, at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment. These students exhibit high performance capacity in intellectual ability, creativity, leadership and/or a specific academic field. Gifted students can be identified in any cultural group or within any economic stratum and require special instruction, services and/or activities not ordinarily provided by the general education program.

Woodridge District 68

Mission for Gifted Students

Gifted students in District 68 will be provided direction, time, encouragement and resources to maximize their potential. District staff members will work with parents, students, and community members to identify gifted students from all backgrounds. District 68 staff will offer these students the differentiated instruction and opportunities they need to be able to thrive and succeed.

Identifying students for gifted services includes using multiple criteria and a multiple measurement approach. Using reliable and valid instruments is an important part of the identification process.

What is SIGS?

A norm referenced rating scale designed to assist school districts in the identification of students as gifted. The primary purpose of the SIGS is to assist in the identification of students as gifted in seven areas.

What areas are assessed?

Seven areas are assessed by the SIGS:

- General Intellectual Ability
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Creativity
- Leadership

Do all the areas need to be completed?

If students are being screened for math only, respondents may omit all but General Intellectual Ability and Mathematics areas of the SIGS.

Who completes the SIGS?

Teachers and parents of students in the screening pool. Parents complete the Home Rating Scale (HRS) and teachers complete the School Rating Scale (SRS). For valid ratings, the respondent should have had daily contact with the student for at least the last 6 weeks. When possible, the mother and father should complete the rating scales together, otherwise the parent that has the most contact should respond.

How long will it take?

Each scale has seven areas and each area has 12 statements. Respondents decide how often the student they are rating exhibits each behavior in comparison to their age peers.

- Never exhibits the behavior
- Rarely exhibits the behavior
- Exhibits the behavior about the same
- Exhibits the behavior somewhat more
- Exhibits the behavior much more in comparison

Completing the entire SIGS should take about half an hour to an hour to complete.

Where do parents and teachers get the SIGS?

If students are being screened for gifted services, the gifted specialist will give the correct SIGS to the respondents.