Gifted Services Identification

Arlington Science Focus Elementary School
January 23, 2019, ASFS Library
8:00-9:00am

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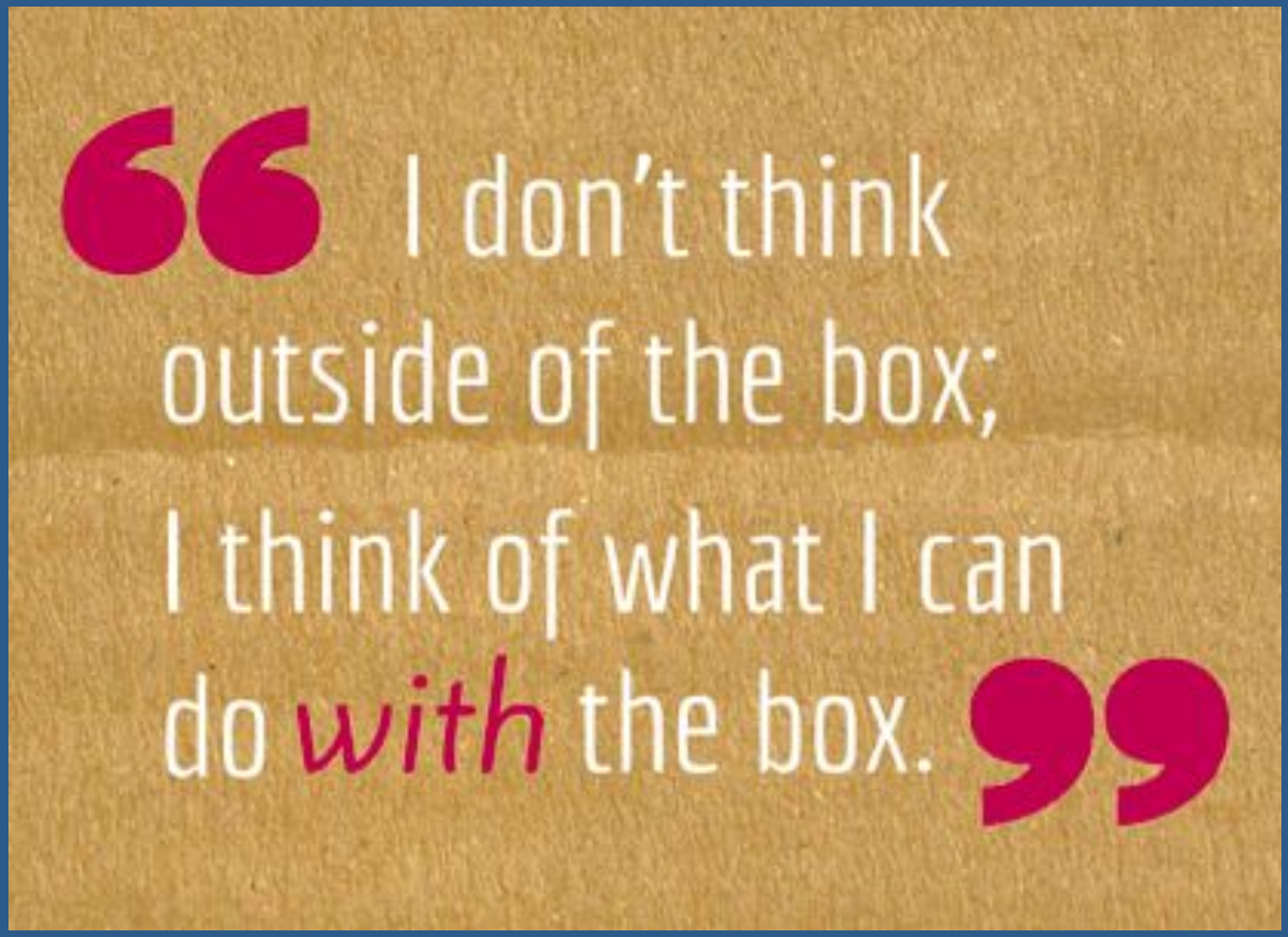
Arlington Public Schools

@asfgiftedservies

Before We Begin

- On each table you will find pieces of paper you can use to jot down any questions during the presentation that you may have for me. The Tiny URL links to the Local Plan for Gifted Services.
- Please hand your question to me before you leave .

Does this Sound Like Your Child?



Author Unknown

Today's Objectives

- Provide an overview of Gifted Services in Arlington Public Schools (ASF) in grades 2-5.
- We will focus on: the identification process

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR

Gifted Children

Supporting the needs of high potential learners

Arlington Public Schools

GIFTED SERVICES

Arlington Public Schools

The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) recommends that every school provide:

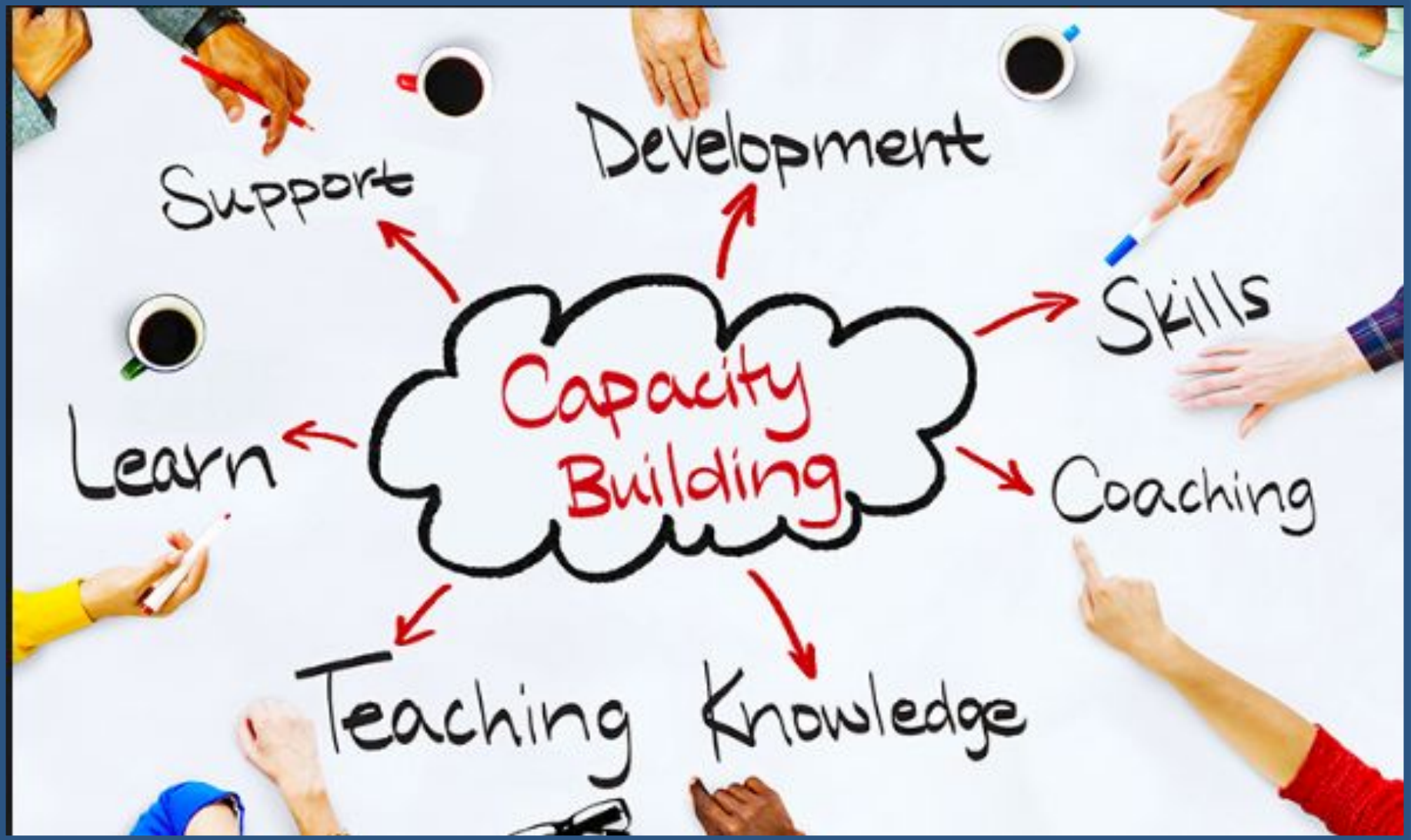
- Access to curricular resources designed for gifted learners
- Systematic and substantial professional development for all teachers, that:
  - Addresses the needs of gifted learners
  - Provides differentiation in general
  - Introduces flexible grouping approaches
- Resource specialists who can support the classroom teacher in the following areas
  - Assessing gifted learner differences
  - Adjusting the curriculum
  - Implementing advanced curriculum and strategies

Virginia Gifted Regulations
APS Local Plan 2017 - 2021

Virginia Department of Education regulations state that each school district must develop a plan to identify and provide services to those students who have learning needs beyond the regular instructional program.

https://tinyurl.com/y939v4xj

Role of the RTG



Gifted Identification Process

There are MANY pathways; it always starts with a referral!

Referrals are **DUE: April 1st**

Bulk of Referrals…

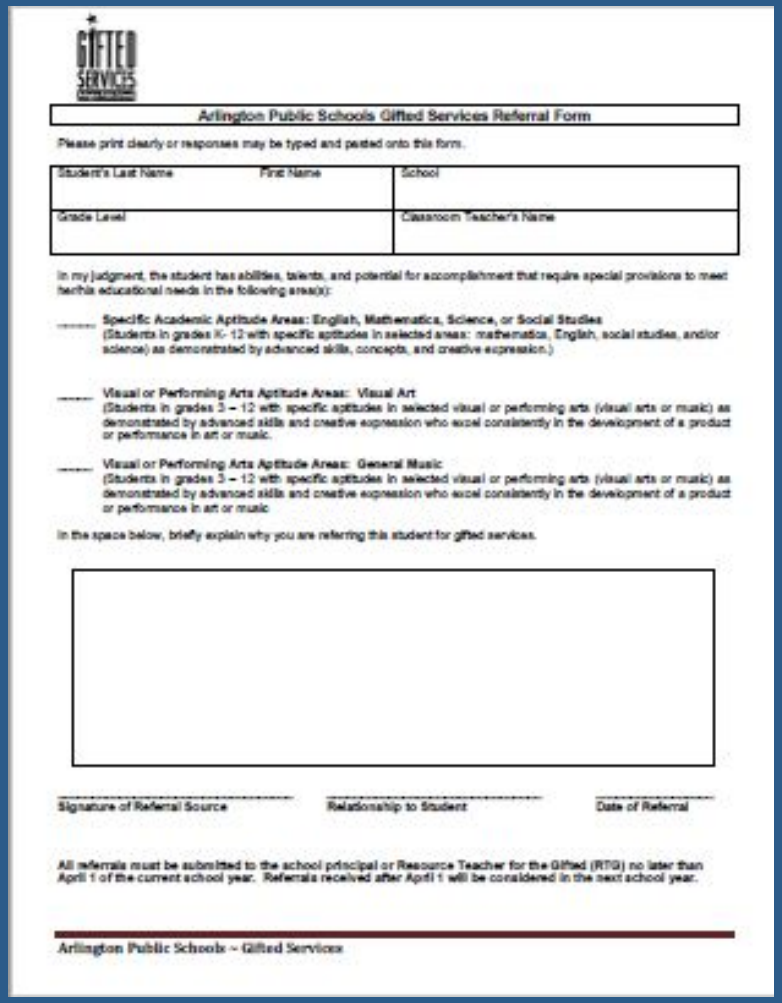
- **Universal Screening Tools for Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies**
  - Grade 2: NNAT (Naglieri)
  - Grade 4: CogAt (Cognitive Abilities Testing)

- **Visual or Performing Arts (Grades 3-12)**
  - Parent, Teacher/Staff, Community Member

Referral Form

Parents, Teachers, Staff Members, Community Members can ALL submit referrals.

Turn-in referrals to the Main Office



GIFTED SERVICES

Arlington Public Schools Gifted Services Referral Form

Please print clearly or responses may be typed and pasted onto this form.

Student's Last Name	First Name	School
Grade Level		Classroom Teacher's Name

In my judgment, the student has abilities, talents, and potential for accomplishment that require special provisions to meet he/his educational needs in the following area(s):

_____ **Specific Academic Aptitude Areas: English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies**
(Students in grades K- 12 with specific aptitudes in selected areas: mathematics, English, social studies, and/or science) as demonstrated by advanced skills, concepts, and creative expression.)

_____ **Visual or Performing Arts Aptitude Areas: Visual Art**
(Students in grades 3 – 12 with specific aptitudes in selected visual or performing arts (visual arts or music) as demonstrated by advanced skills and creative expression who excel consistently in the development of a product or performance in art or music.

_____ **Visual or Performing Arts Aptitude Areas: General Music**
(Students in grades 3 – 12 with specific aptitudes in selected visual or performing arts (visual arts or music) as demonstrated by advanced skills and creative expression who excel consistently in the development of a product or performance in art or music

In the space below, briefly explain why you are referring this student for gifted services.

Signature of Referral Source	Relationship to Student	Date of Referral

All referrals must be submitted to the school principal or Resource Teacher for the Gifted (RTG) no later than April 1 of the current school year. Referrals received after April 1 will be considered in the next school year.

Arlington Public Schools ~ Gifted Services

APS Gifted Services

Grades K-12

- Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies

Grades 3-12

- Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies
- Visual Arts
- Performing Arts

Identification Process

1. Submit a referral

2. Acknowledgement Form/Permission to collect data

3. Parent Information Form

4. Teachers/staff complete Gifted Behavior Commentary (GBC)

5. Internal committee meets (Teacher, Assistant Principal, RTG, Specialist, etc.).

6. Decision letter sent home. **

7. Parent signs letter to be kept on file.

*** There is an Appeals Process; parents meet with the Principal to appeal the decision of the committee if the parent disagrees with the committees decision.*

Nationally-Normed Assessments

- Grade 2 students, and new-to-APS 3rd graders, take the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT-2)
- Grade 4 students, and new-to-APS 5th graders, take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)
- Other tests may be included such as Kaufman-Brief Intelligence Test (KBIT) and the Test of Mathematical Abilities for Gifted Students (TOMAGS).
- Private testing submitted by parent

School-Based Achievement

- **County Level**
  Standards of Learning (SOL) tests, Power School tests, and other available data

- **School Level**
  Ongoing formative and summative assessments

- **Individual Level**
  Honors or distinctions

Student Behaviors/Characteristics

- **All staff who work with referred student complete a Gifted Behavior Commentary (GBC)**
  - Documents gifted characteristics and behaviors observed in a variety of settings across four categories
- **Parent Information Sheet**
  - Documents gifted characteristics and behaviors observed in a variety of settings across four categories
  - Provides an opportunity for parents to share examples that the school team may not have had an opportunity to observe during the school day

Gifted Behaviors Commentary (GBC)

Exceptional ability to learn	• Is highly reflective and/or sensitive to his or her environment • Readily learns and adapts to new cultures • Is acquiring language at a rapid pace
Exceptional application of knowledge	• Uses and interprets advanced symbol systems in academics, visual arts, and/or performing arts • Acts as an interpreter, translator, and/or facilitator to help others • Communicates learned concepts through role playing and/or detailed artwork
Exceptional creative / productive thinking	• Expresses ideas, feelings, experiences, and/or beliefs in original ways • Perceives and manipulates patterns, colors, and/or symbols
Exceptional motivation to succeed	• Meets exceptional personal and/or academic challenges • Exhibits a strong sense of loyalty and responsibility • Demonstrates exceptional ability to adapt to new experiences

Demonstrated Performance/Student Work Samples

- Distinguished levels of performances when working with advanced content.
  - Examples may include:
    - Project M^2 & Project M^3
    - Interpretive responses within William and Mary Language Arts units
    - Analysis of Primary Source Documents
    - Responses to Critical and Creative Thinking Lessons

Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)

- Referrals for Visual/Performing Arts begin in Grade 3
  - Art and Music Teacher Observations of Artistic Behaviors
  - Student Products provided by art/music teachers
  - Grades
  - Parent Information Form

Identification Decisions

- At the end of the referral process, a local screening committee meets to review the student's portfolio and make determines about eligibility.

- ASF will send identification decisions to parents or guardians by letter within 10 school days after the Identification Committee meeting has made a decision.

Gifted Services Identification Process Outlined on APS Gifted Services web page http://www.apsva.us/Page/1846

If Students are Found Eligible

- We **cluster group*** identified gifted students in grades 2-5 into classrooms with intellectual peers

**following school year*

- RTG plans with and supports the classroom teachers using extension activities and projects for students who have already mastered grade-level content
  - Note: Support may look different in the various grade levels depending on teacher and student needs

If Students are NOT Found Eligible

- An appeal is available to families following the eligibility process.
  - Appeals begin at the school level with the principal.
  - A second level of appeal is countywide Gifted Services Administrative Appeals Committee.

http://www.apsva.us/Page/1846#appeal

Parent Resources

- Virginia Association for the Gifted (VAG)
  http://www.vagifted.org

- National Association for the Gifted (NAGC)
  http://nagc.org

- Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG)
  http://sengifted.org

Gifted Services Advisory Committee (GSAC)

Arlington Public School's Parent Advocacy Group Part of Advisory Council of Instruction
https://www.apsva.us/aci/gifted-services/

Monthly Meetings
(1st Wednesday: 6:30 – 8:00 PM
followed by ACI meeting 8:00 - 9:00 PM)

Getting Connected: APS Gifted Services

Arlington Public Schools
Gifted Services Website
www.apsva.us/giftedservices

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Contact Information

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Questions

What questions do you have?