



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

OCDSB Secondary Gifted Program

Information Session

Thursday December 5, 2024



Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that we are holding this meeting today on the unceded traditional land of the Anishinaabe Algonquin Nation. We recognize and value the enduring presence of the Algonquin people on this land since time immemorial.





Your hosts this evening...

Christine Kessler

System Principal

*Learning Support
Services*

Viki Holan

viki.holan@ocdsb.ca

Learning Support
Consultant

*Secondary Gifted
Program*

Dr. Kristin Schaub

Program Manager,
Psychological Services
and Behaviour Analysts

Learning Support Services

Housekeeping Items



- Attendees will not have access to their cameras or microphones
- Questions can be asked via the Q and A option, which is found by clicking the geometric shapes button at the bottom of your screen
- We will be addressing questions at the end of the presentation
- The slide presentation will be posted on the OCDSB website

PLEASE NOTE: As this is a public information session, we will not be able to address questions related to individual circumstances.

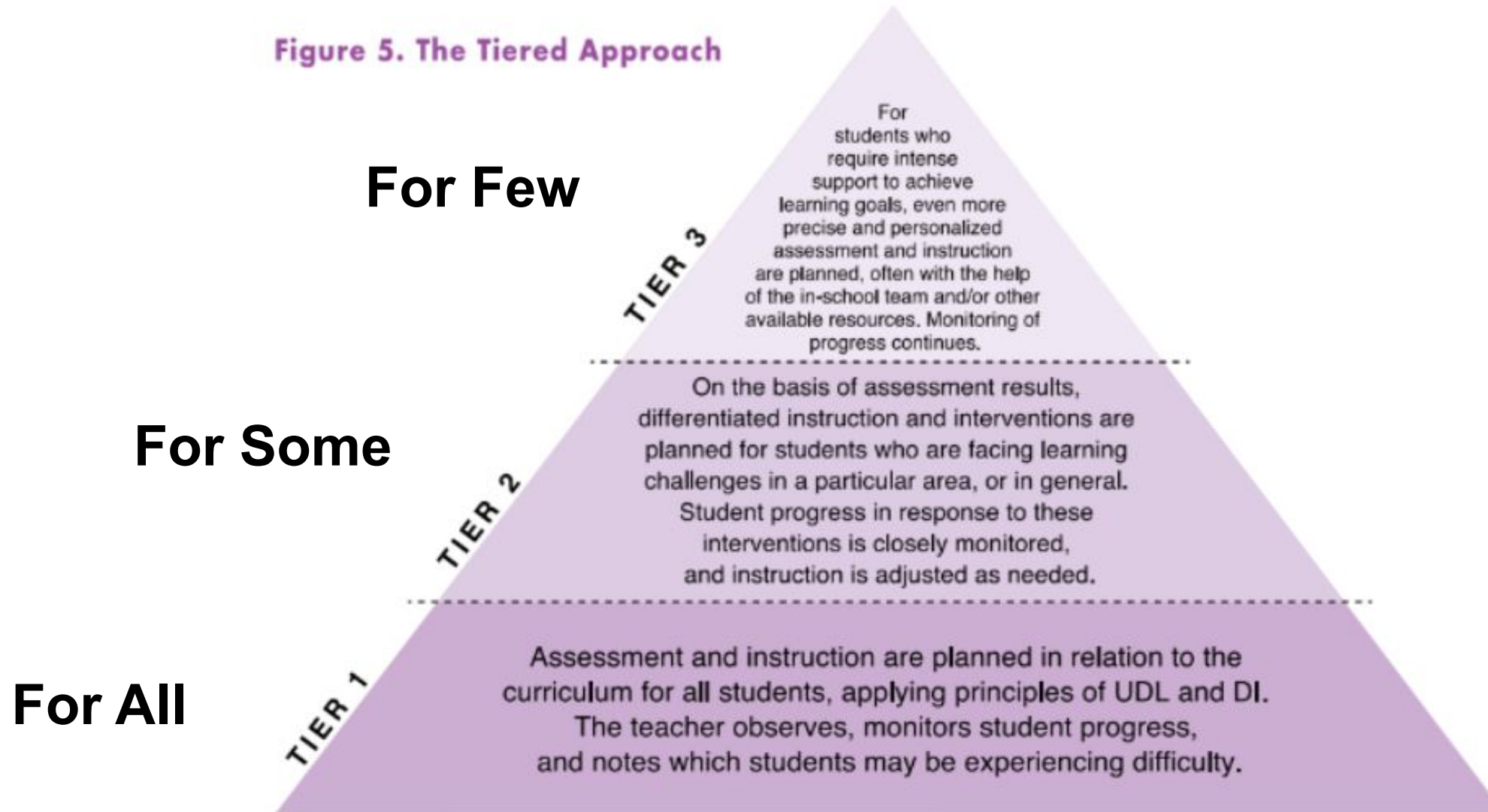


Support for Gifted Students across the District

- At the Secondary level (grades 9-12), Gifted learners are found within all programs offered in the OCDSB, including the regular English Program, French Immersion Program, the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, the Alternate Programs and in a number of our specialized program classes, including the Gifted Program
- Teachers support all OCDSB students, including Gifted students, using a multi-tiered system of supports
- The Secondary Gifted Program **does** require an application for learners not currently in the program
- Applications are reviewed by a school-based committee; an IPRC (Identification, Placement and Review Committee) will be conducted to formalize the identification and placement for students who are accepted to the program
- When a student is formally identified with the exceptionality of Giftedness (and/or another exceptionality), they will have an Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- The IEP ensures that needed accommodations are in place for students to access and engage with curriculum; in high school, your child's IEP is managed by the Learning Support Teacher (LST)

OCDSB Special Education Support/Services

Figure 5. The Tiered Approach



Overview of the Secondary Gifted Program

The Secondary Gifted Program,

- is a program which supports Gifted learners who are working towards completion of their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
- is inclusive of Twice-Exceptional learners (e.g., students with ADHD, Learning Disabilities, Autism, etc.)
- follows the same curriculum as regular program courses and aligns with the board's secondary assessment, evaluation, and reporting procedures
- provides students with the opportunity to take designated 'Gifted' classes for some subjects (often compulsory credits) as well as classes with peers in the regular program
- requires that students in the program select Gifted courses where and when offered, depending on their post-secondary pathway requirements

Overview of the Secondary Gifted Program (cont'd)

- The program embeds researched-based instructional practices to support Gifted learners which includes, but is not limited to:
 - Differentiated instruction and assessment practices based on students' needs;
 - Problem-based, Inquiry-based and Project-based learning approaches;
 - Extension and enrichment opportunities which explore curriculum in greater depth and breadth;
 - Use of flexible groupings (including by ability, interest, learning styles, etc.);
 - Connection to mentors within the school community as well outside of school (ie., with post-secondary institutions, industry or field experts, etc.)
 - Focused development of many skill areas including social skills, leadership skills, creative and critical thinking skills, etc.
- Students' classroom experiences are also often extended with participation in a variety of programs offered both in and outside of school including:
 - Academic contests, the OCDSB International Certificate Program, language certifications (ie. DELF), clubs & co-curricular opportunities, experiential learning, music/arts programming, STEAM initiatives, University Mini-Enrichment programs...and more!

Secondary Gifted Program - School Information

Glebe CI	Lisgar CI	Bell HS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ French Immersion Gifted→ Semestered school year→ High School Info night: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ English Gifted→ Semestered school year→ High School Info night: Thursday, January 16, 2025 7:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ English & French Immersion Gifted→ Semestered school year→ High School Info night: Wednesday, January 15, 2025 6:30 p.m.



[Glebe Gifted Page](#)



[Lisgar Gifted Page](#)



[Bell Gifted Page](#)

How do I determine my child's designated Gifted school location?

- The determination of your child's Secondary Gifted school location is geographic based on your home address
- Your first step is to use the School Locator tool found on the OCDSB website
- From here you will determine your child's community/home high school
- Next, refer to [this table](#) to help determine your child's designated French Immersion Gifted, or English Gifted school option(s)

PLEASE NOTE: You should not submit multiple applications to multiple sites; only one application will be considered.

The Application Process

For Current OCDSB Elementary Gifted Program Students

- Students currently enrolled in an OCDSB congregated grade 8 Gifted Program **do not** need to apply to the Secondary Gifted Program for grade 9
- Student course selection for grade 9 will be open for submission in late January until the end of February
- OCDSB students use a course planning tool called Xello for this process
- Students currently in grade 8 Gifted who are planning to join the high school Gifted program will gain access to course options for their designated Gifted location via Xello
- Your child's grade 8 teacher will support this process



The Application Process (continued)

For OCDSB students not currently in the Gifted Program and external applicants (students not enrolled in the OCDSB)

The application **MUST** include:

- A completed and signed OCDSB Application Form: Secondary Gifted Program
- Most recent report card
- Most recent Individual Education Plan (if applicable)
- Most recent psychoeducational assessment containing one of the following cognitive assessments:
 - ❑ CCAT-7
 - ❑ WISC-V
- Any additional assessment reports (e.g., most recent medical, speech-language/communication, Intensive Behaviour Intervention, occupational/physiotherapy, social work)
- Applications are to be submitted to your child's designated Gifted program school; you should submit only one application, not multiple

Cognitive Assessment & Criteria

There are two different ways to identify a Gifted Learner

Cognitive Screener:

- Criteria Cognitive Aptitude Test (CCAT-7) = 98th at least on two scales; at least 90 for the third

Cognitive Assessment (Psychologist):

- The Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC-V)
- Stanford Binet (L-M)
- The Full-Scale (FSIQ) or General Ability Index (GAI) = 98th percentile



Current Criteria for the Secondary Gifted Program

The required documentation is:

- The cognitive assessment (CCAT-7 or WISC-V)
- A complete OCDSB application form
- Most recent report card
- Current IEP, if applicable
- Report cards from the last 2 years (required only for applications with assessments older than 2 years 11 months)

Highly recommended:

- Educational assessment
- Additional assessment or letters from healthcare professionals

Considerations for Students and Families

There are different aspects to take into account:

- Twice-exceptional profile
- Cognitive/Neuropsychological profile
- Academic achievement
- Future goals
- Psycho-socio-emotional profile



Committee Review and Timelines

The application period will be from **January to March 31, 2025**

- Application reviews will begin in February 2025
- Committee decisions may take up to 4-6 weeks
- Should your child be accepted into the Gifted program, the school will contact you to begin the registration process and to complete course selection for September
- After March 31, applications will be considered on a case by case basis

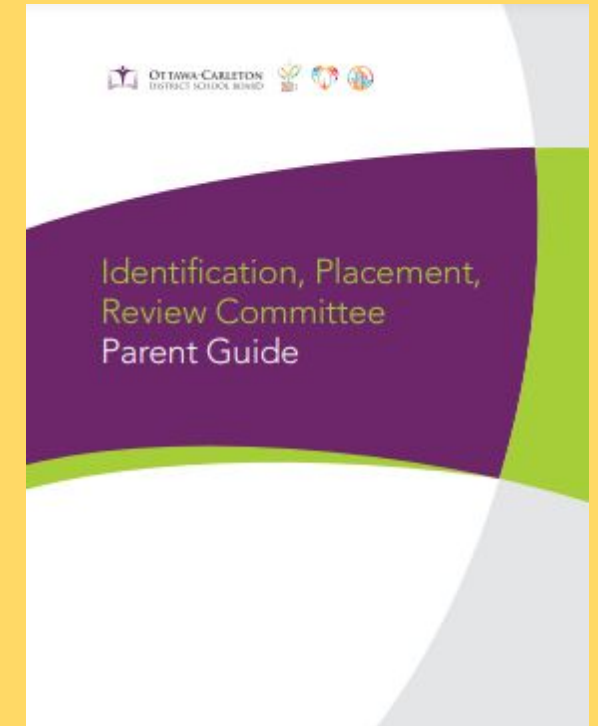
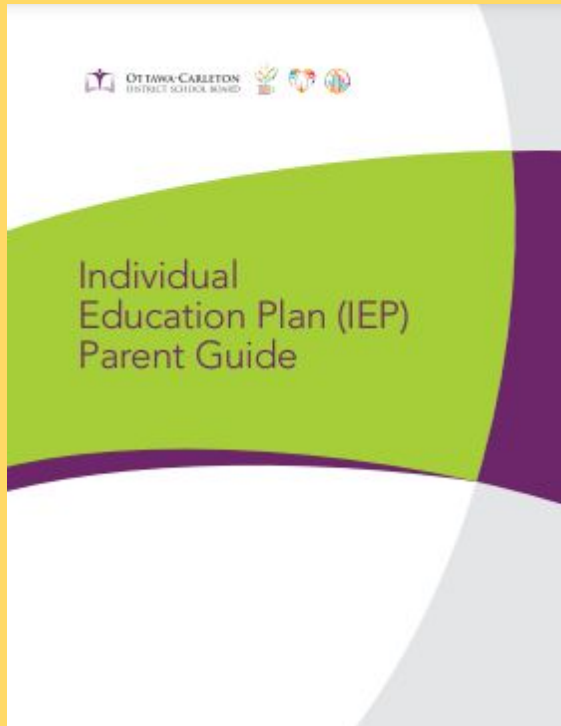
School Transportation

- The Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) supports and makes determinations about eligibility for student transportation. Decisions are made based on the student's home address on file with the OCDSB

OSTA deems students eligible for transportation if:

- The shortest walking distance between the student's home address and the student's Gifted School location is 3.2 km or more
- Eligible students will receive a Presto pass valid for use on public transit for the duration of the school year
- With some school sites, students may be eligible for small vehicle transportation if OC Transpo does not service their address (Please note that this determination is made by OSTA, not by the school site)
- For students currently registered in our school board, transportation can be set up in the Spring however, brand new students in September may experience some early delays with receiving their bus passes

Key Resources





Questions

Thank you very much for your attendance this evening. We look forward to supporting your child on their journey with the OCDSB.



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Learning



Well-Being



Social Responsibility