

Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Office of Gifted Education and Curriculum Development

Dear Parent/Guardian:

All first grade students enrolled in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools are screened in January or February each year in order to ensure consideration for gifted program services. Students who score 90th percentile or above on the screening instrument are then referred for additional testing.

Failure to recommend a student for testing in grade one based upon screening results does not mean that a student cannot be referred at a future date, but rather that additional testing is not recommended at this time. Parents may request additional testing for students who do not score 90th percentile but wish to be considered for placement. All information is reviewed by the Virginia Beach City Public Schools Gifted Identification and Placement Committee to determine identification for gifted services.

In order for your child to be considered for identification for gifted services, it is necessary for you to sign and complete the attached parent permission form. Information considered by the Gifted Identification and Placement Committee includes:

- Parent Information Form completed by parent/guardian
- Teacher checklist of behavioral characteristics of the gifted indicating a need for differentiated instruction
- Current information from ability tests
- Achievement indicated by grades and classroom performance

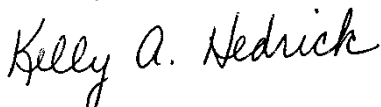
Please sign and complete the attached Parent Information Form and return it to your child's school to initiate the referral process. All forms must be returned to your school's Gifted Resource Teacher on or before Thursday, March 1, 2012. The school will forward the completed forms to the Gifted Education Testing Office and an assessment specialist will administer testing at your child's school. A schedule of first grade testing dates is attached.

The Gifted Identification and Placement Committee will meet in May 2012 to review all information and will notify parents and the school principal of decisions. ***Students who wish to be considered for placement at Old Donation Center (ODC) should indicate their interest by checking the appropriate box on the Parent Information Form.***

A parent information meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at ODC beginning at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will present an overview of both the resource-cluster and magnet programs as well as the identification and selection processes.

Should you have additional questions you may contact the Gifted Resource Teacher in your child's school or an assessment specialist in the Gifted Education Testing Office at (757) 263-1464. Thank you for your interest in gifted program services.

Sincerely,



Kelly A. Hedrick, Ed.D., Director
Office of Gifted Education
and Curriculum Development

/dya

Grade One Parent Information Packet

2011-2012 School Year

Gifted students in Virginia Beach City Public Schools are provided with instruction through a differentiated curriculum responsive to the educational needs of the child. Gifted students may choose to apply to a centrally located full-time elementary gifted school, Old Donation Center, or students may remain in the neighborhood school and receive services through the resource-cluster program. Both models provide opportunities for gifted students to benefit from learning challenges offered through the differentiation of curricula, the incorporation of strategies designed to raise the level of learning, and the availability of specialized programs.

RESOURCE-CLUSTER PROGRAM

Gifted services are available to *identified* elementary school students in their neighborhood schools through the resource-cluster model. *Identified* students in grades two through five are placed in heterogeneous classrooms, in groups of approximately six to eight, and are taught by a cluster teacher trained in gifted education. A resource teacher, endorsed in gifted education, assists the cluster teacher in delivering instruction at a depth and rate conducive to the intellectual needs of gifted learners.

The resource-cluster program is grounded in general education curricula but is differentiated, modified, and expanded to provide appropriate learning challenges. Students are required to demonstrate mastery of the state-mandated Standards of Learning and their instruction is differentiated when they have mastered a particular skill or unit. You may contact the Gifted Resource Teacher at your child's school for further information.

OLD DONATION CENTER

Old Donation Center (ODC) is a centralized full-time, gifted school designed for *identified* gifted students in grades two through five. The curriculum encompasses all of the Virginia Beach instructional objectives and expands and extends specifically to meet the needs of the gifted student. The content of the courses is both compacted and extended so students are not only accelerated, but also are studying material in greater depth. Differentiated lessons and units are created as needed, with research and independent discovery being major components of each subject area.

Old Donation Center offers art, music, physical education, and computer, in addition to English, math, science, and social studies. Extra-curricular activities include options such as Destination Imagination, yearbook, student newspaper, SCA, and other clubs in which students have special interest. Further questions may be directed to ODC at (757) 648-3240.

SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012

**OLD DONATION CENTER
CAFETERIA ~ 6:30 PM**

Topics for discussion will include the following:

- Application/Testing Process
- Program Rigor and Expectations
- Extracurricular Programs
- Academic Offerings
- Transportation

A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Application deadline for all grade one applications: March 1, 2012

IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

All first grade students enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools are screened in January or February to ensure consideration for gifted program services. Students who score 90th percentile or above on the screening instrument are referred for additional testing.

Failure to recommend a student for testing in grade one based upon screening results does not mean that a student cannot be referred at a future date, but rather that additional testing is not recommended at this time. Parents may request additional testing for students who do not score 90th percentile but wish to be considered for placement. All information is reviewed by the Virginia Beach City Public Schools Gifted Identification and Placement Committee to determine *identification* for gifted services.

ODC SELECTION PROCESS

To be considered for placement at ODC, students must meet the criteria for gifted identification.

Identified gifted students interested in attending ODC are referred to the selection committee for review. A team of approximately 25 people representing a variety of experiences, backgrounds, and ethnicities serve on the Student Selection Committee. The team will review eligible applicants to determine placement at Old Donation Center. The following components will be used in the decision making process:

- Parent Information
- Teacher Recommendation
- Standardized Test Scores
- Student Achievement (as indicated on the current report card)

The team will use a numerical rating scale to complete a holistic evaluation of the applicants. Multiple readers will rate each application independently. The committee will stop periodically to check the reliability of the ratings; if readers are more than one number apart in their rankings, the application will receive further review and group discussion as needed. This process is modeled after those used to select students for the Governor's School Summer Programs and many college admissions offices.

A rating scale of 5 - 1, with 5 being the highest recommendation, will be used. Listed below are the criteria for each numerical rating:

- 5 = consistently strong in all of the application components; a definite yes
- 4 = strong in most of the application components; a likely yes
- 3 = shows strength in some application components, but not consistently excellent; possible, but not likely yes
- 2 = few consistent areas of strength; a likely no
- 1 = not recommended

After the applications have been rated, those receiving the highest ratings will be recommended for placement at ODC. A waiting list will be identified in the event that a student who is offered a position chooses not to accept. The waiting list will remain in effect for the first grading period only. Students who wish to be considered for placement for the 2013-2014 school year must reapply.

STUDENTS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Completed applications for students *not currently enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools* must be mailed to:

Virginia Beach City Public Schools
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Gifted Education Testing Office
2512 George Mason Drive, P. O. Box 6038
Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038

Incomplete, faxed, and e-mailed applications will not be processed. Copies of the student's transcripts and the current report card must be submitted **with the application**.

Applicants ***must attend a testing session at Old Donation Center on Friday, April 6, 2012.*** Students will be given two tests. The testing session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and should conclude by 11:00 a.m. ***Students must meet the criteria for gifted identification in order to be considered for placement at Old Donation Center.***

For office use only:

Grade One Referral for Gifted Program Services 2012

Please return this form to the Gifted Resource Teacher at the student's school. Applications for students not currently enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools should be returned to the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Gifted Education Testing Office, 2512 George Mason Drive, P. O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038.

Application Deadline: March 1, 2012

Please print clearly in black or blue ink only.

Student's Legal Name: _____

Last
First
MI
Nickname

PERM #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Title (Mr. and/or Mrs., Ms., Dr., etc.)
First
Last

Address: _____

Street Address

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Other Telephone: _____

Current School: _____ Current Teacher: _____

Referral Initiated by: *(Select only one; if other, please specify)*

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Grade Screening	<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian
<input type="checkbox"/> Gifted Resource Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Support Team	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Does this student have a current IEP or 504 plan? **NO** **YES**

If yes, a copy of the testing accommodations must be attached.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

OLSAT Form: B5 Date: _____ Grade: 1 SAI: _____ V: _____ NV: _____

NNAT2 Form: B Date: _____ Grade: 1 NAI: _____

Achievement Test: _____

Other Test Information: _____

IDENTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT COMMITTEE ACTION

R

IDENTIFIED **NOT IDENTIFIED**

If identified for gifted services,

- Recommended For Old Donation Center
- Waiting List – ODC; Placement in Resource-Cluster Program**
- Recommended For Placement in Resource-Cluster Program**

HOLD, Referred For Further Evaluation in Grade Two

May 2012
Date

Signature (Identification and Placement Committee Chairperson)

**Parent Information Form
Grade 1**

We value your input and will carefully review your evaluation. Forms should be returned to the Gifted Resource Teacher at your child's school **on or before March 1, 2012**. Evaluations for students not currently enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools should be returned to the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Gifted Education Testing Office, 2512 George Mason Drive, P. O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038.

Please print clearly in black or blue ink only.

Student's **Legal Name**: _____ **Date of Birth**: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Current Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City, State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Current School: _____ Current Teacher: _____

I would like my child considered for gifted program services. I understand that the testing will be completed by the assessment team and/or school psychologist. If identified for gifted services, I understand that my child will be placed in the resource-cluster program at the neighborhood school.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please check:

If identified, I would like my child considered for selection to attend ODC for the 2012-2013 school year.

For each statement, check the word that best describes your child. Please cite specific examples.

A. My child is an intense learner. This is demonstrated through

- | | <i>Almost
Always</i> | <i>Often</i> | <i>Seldom</i> | |
|----|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | _____ | determination to complete assignments and projects successfully |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | _____ | using advanced vocabulary, incorporating it into conversation or writing |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | _____ | possessing a large amount of factual knowledge used accurately, reading extensively |
| 4. | _____ | _____ | _____ | social awareness, concern for fairness, prejudice, and equity issues beyond age level |
| 5. | _____ | _____ | _____ | exploring topics of personal interest beyond age level, becoming totally absorbed in an area of particular interest |

Examples: _____

Over →

B. My child is an analytical thinker. Analytical thinking is demonstrated through

- | | <i>Almost
Always</i> | <i>Often</i> | <i>Seldom</i> | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 6. | _____ | _____ | _____ | an understanding of ideas and complex concepts |
| 7. | _____ | _____ | _____ | an interest in challenging situations, approaching problems from different perspectives, tackling difficult problems and issues which others may find frustrating |
| 8. | _____ | _____ | _____ | learning new skills and concepts quickly |
| 9. | _____ | _____ | _____ | an awareness of relationships, using metaphors or analogies, making mental connections |
| 10. | _____ | _____ | _____ | a willingness to take risks, showing confidence in answers and willing to support a different idea or opinion |

Examples: _____

C. My child is a creative producer. Creative, productive thinking is demonstrated through

- | | <i>Almost
Always</i> | <i>Often</i> | <i>Seldom</i> | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| 11. | _____ | _____ | _____ | generating different ideas, adapting readily to new situations |
| 12. | _____ | _____ | _____ | originality, expressing familiar ideas in unusual ways, offering unique solutions to problems or questions, creating original products |
| 13. | _____ | _____ | _____ | creating detailed projects, turning the simple into complex, adding details, embellishing |
| 14. | _____ | _____ | _____ | questioning, asking complex questions not typical of age group |
| 15. | _____ | _____ | _____ | a sense of humor reflecting advanced understanding, seeing humor in situations others find humorless |

Examples: _____

D. My child is highly motivated in areas of interest. Motivation is demonstrated through

- | | <i>Almost
Always</i> | <i>Often</i> | <i>Seldom</i> | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 16. | _____ | _____ | _____ | working well independently |
| 17. | _____ | _____ | _____ | exceeding expectations, doing more than what is required on assignments of interest |
| 18. | _____ | _____ | _____ | working cooperatively as a team member, receptive to the ideas of others |
| 19. | _____ | _____ | _____ | eagerness to complete assignments of interest on time or prior to due date |
| 20. | _____ | _____ | _____ | assuming leadership positions, leading the group |

Examples: _____

Additional Comments: *Please be as specific as possible in commenting on any characteristics, abilities, and/or aptitudes of your child that you feel should be brought to the attention of the Identification and Placement Committee:*

Teacher Recommendation Form
Grade 1

We value your input and will carefully review your recommendation. Forms should be returned to the Gifted Resource Teacher **on or before March 1, 2012**. Evaluations for students not currently enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools should be returned to the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Gifted Education Testing Office, 2512 George Mason Drive, P. O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038.

Please print clearly in black or blue ink only.

Student's **Legal** Name: _____

Current School: _____

Current Grade Level: 1

Teacher's Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

For each statement, check the word that best describes the student. Please cite specific examples.

A. The student is an intense learner. This is demonstrated through

- | | <i>Almost
Always</i> | <i>Often</i> | <i>Seldom</i> | |
|----|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | _____ | determination to complete assignments and projects successfully |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | _____ | using advanced vocabulary, incorporating it into conversation or writing |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | _____ | possessing a large amount of factual knowledge used accurately, reading extensively |
| 4. | _____ | _____ | _____ | social awareness, concern for fairness, prejudice, and equity issues beyond age level |
| 5. | _____ | _____ | _____ | exploring topics of personal interest beyond age level, becoming totally absorbed in an area of particular interest |

Examples: _____

B. The student is an analytical thinker. Analytical thinking is demonstrated through

- | | <i>Almost
Always</i> | <i>Often</i> | <i>Seldom</i> | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 6. | _____ | _____ | _____ | an understanding of ideas and complex concepts |
| 7. | _____ | _____ | _____ | an interest in challenging situations, approaching problems from different perspectives, tackling difficult problems and issues which others may find frustrating |
| 8. | _____ | _____ | _____ | learning new skills and concepts quickly |
| 9. | _____ | _____ | _____ | an awareness of relationships, using metaphors or analogies, making mental connections |
| 10. | _____ | _____ | _____ | a willingness to take risks, showing confidence in answers and willing to support a different idea or opinion |

Examples: _____

Grade One Testing Schedule 2011-2012 School Year

School	Screening of all 1 st Grade Students	Follow-up Testing of 1 st Grade Students Referred for Additional Assessment
Alanton ES	Monday, February 6, 2012	Monday, March 26, 2012
Arrowhead ES	Thursday, January 12, 2012	Thursday, April 19, 2012
Bayside ES	Wednesday, January 11, 2012	Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Birdneck ES	Tuesday, January 24, 2012	Tuesday, March 27, 2012
Brookwood ES	Tuesday, January 31, 2012	Tuesday, March 20, 2012
Centerville ES	Thursday, January 26, 2012	Wednesday, March 21, 2012
Christopher Farms ES	Wednesday, January 25, 2012	Wednesday, March 28, 2012
College Park ES	Friday, February 3, 2012	Thursday, March 29, 2012
Cooke ES	Friday, January 20, 2012	Monday, April 23, 2012
Corporate Landing ES	Thursday, February 9, 2012	Tuesday, April 17, 2012
Creeds ES	Tuesday, January 10, 2012	Wednesday, March 14, 2012
Dey ES	Tuesday, January 10, 2012	Wednesday, March 14, 2012
Diamond Springs ES	Monday, January 30, 2012 & Tuesday, January 31, 2012	Thursday, March 15, 2012
Fairfield ES	Friday, January 13, 2012	Friday, March 23, 2012
Glenwood ES	Thursday, January 26, 2012	Friday, April 20, 2012
Green Run ES	Thursday, January 12, 2012	Thursday, March 29, 2012
Hermitage ES	Tuesday, February 7, 2012	Monday, April 2, 2012
Holland ES	Wednesday, January 25, 2012	Wednesday, April 18, 2012
Indian Lakes ES	Friday, January 13, 2012	Friday, March 23, 2012
Kempsville ES	Friday, February 3, 2012	Friday, March 30, 2012
Kempsville Meadows ES	Wednesday, February 8, 2012	Wednesday, March 28, 2012
King's Grant ES	Friday, January 13, 2012	Thursday, March 22, 2012
Kingston ES	Thursday, January 12, 2012	Thursday, March 22, 2012
Landstown ES	Thursday, February 2, 2012	Tuesday, April 24, 2012
Linkhorn Park ES	Wednesday, January 11, 2012	Wednesday, April 25, 2012
Luxford ES	Friday, January 20, 2012	Friday, March 30, 2012
Lynnhaven ES	Wednesday, February 8, 2012	Wednesday, April 18, 2012
Malibu ES	Tuesday, January 17, 2012	Tuesday, April 17, 2012
New Castle ES	Thursday, January 19, 2012	Tuesday, March 20, 2012
North Landing ES	Tuesday, January 17, 2012	Tuesday, April 17, 2012
Ocean Lakes ES	Monday, January 23, 2012	Monday, March 26, 2012

Grade One Testing Schedule 2011-2012 School Year

School	Screening of all 1 st Grade Students	Follow-up Testing of 1 st Grade Students Referred for Additional Assessment
Parkway ES	Wednesday, January 25, 2012	Wednesday, April 25, 2012
Pembroke ES	Friday, January 20, 2012	Thursday, March 29, 2012
Pembroke Meadows ES	Monday, January 23, 2012	Monday, April 2, 2012
Point O'View ES	Tuesday, January 31, 2012	Tuesday, March 27, 2012
Princess Anne ES	Friday, February 10, 2012	Wednesday, April 25, 2012
Providence ES	Monday, January 30, 2012	Monday, April 23, 2012
Red Mill ES	Tuesday, January 24, 2012	Tuesday, March 27, 2012
Rosemont ES	Tuesday, January 24, 2012	Tuesday, April 24, 2012
Rosemont Forest ES	Wednesday, February 1, 2012	Wednesday, April 18, 2012
Salem ES	Tuesday, January 17, 2012	Friday, April 20, 2012
Seatack ES	Wednesday, January 18, 2012	Thursday, March 22, 2012
Shelton Park ES	Monday, February 6, 2012	Wednesday, March 21, 2012
Strawbridge ES	Wednesday, January 18, 2012	Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Tallwood ES	Thursday, February 2, 2012	Thursday, April 19, 2012
Thalia ES	Wednesday, February 1, 2012	Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Thoroughgood ES	Thursday, January 19, 2012	Thursday, April 19, 2012
Three Oaks ES	Monday, January 23, 2012	Thursday, March 15, 2012
Trantwood ES	Wednesday, January 18, 2012	Wednesday, March 28, 2012
White Oaks ES	Thursday, January 19, 2012	Thursday, March 22, 2012
Windsor Oaks ES	Thursday, January 26, 2012	Monday, March 19, 2012
Windsor Woods ES	Wednesday, January 11, 2012	Thursday, March 15, 2012
Woodstock ES	Thursday, February 9, 2012	Thursday, April 19, 2012

Students Not Currently Enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools

Applicants not currently enrolled in Virginia Beach City Public Schools ***must attend a testing session at Old Donation Center on Friday, April 6, 2012***. Students will be given two tests. The testing session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and should conclude by 11:00 a.m.

Students must meet the criteria for gifted identification in order to be considered for placement at Old Donation Center.