Gateway Academy

The Pickerington Local School’s Gateway Academy is a comprehensive program that services those students exhibiting superior abilities in intelligence, mathematics and reading/language. The curriculum for Gateway Academy is compacted and accelerated to meet the learning demands of the selected students. Students will experience a compacted curriculum in mathematics and English Language Arts while receiving enrichment and integration in science and social studies.

Gifted Education curriculum is accelerated in expectations for cognitive performance, pacing, and depth-of-knowing. It provides for a deep and interconnected level of understanding of content, process, and conceptual framework. Learning is adapted to meet the needs of gifted students through depth and breadth of learning. Gateway Academy allows for students with like-abilities to work and learn with each other on a daily basis.

The Council for Exceptional Children states that gifted students benefit from learning together and tend to better understand, accept, and use their learning differences as assets when they are grouped together. The Gateway Academy program will provide students extended time to spend with peers of similar needs and abilities. The National Association for Gifted Children reaffirmed the importance of grouping for instruction of gifted students. Grouping allows for more appropriate, rapid, and in-depth instruction, which matches the rapidly developing skills and capabilities of gifted students.
Eligibility For Gateway Academy

Any child who meets ALL of the following requirements shall be eligible for consideration for selection to the gifted magnet school (from the Program Standards for School Foundation Units for Gifted Children 3301-51-15):

1. **School Ability Index (SAI) or Intelligence Quotient (IQ)** as measured by a standardized group intelligence test administered within 24 months prior to initial placement, with performance two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement.

   AND

2. **Specific academic ability in mathematics**, which is superior to that of children of similar age, as measured by a standardized group achievement test related to specific academic ability and administered within 24 months prior to initial placement with performance at or above the 95th national percentile.

   AND

3. **Specific academic ability in reading/language**, which is superior to that of children of similar age, as measured by a standardized group achievement test related to specific academic ability and administered within 24 months prior to initial placement with performance at or above the 95th national percentile.

   OR

1. **School Ability Index (SAI) or Intelligence Quotient (IQ)** as measured by a standardized group intelligence test administered within 24 months prior to initial placement, with performance three standard deviations above the mean.

There will be no exceptions made to this policy.