

## **Programs for Handicapped/Disabled/Exceptional Students**

The school board will provide special education programs for all children with unique learning needs, whether these needs are academic, physical, emotional, psychological, or sociological.

Children with learning handicaps will be educated in the regular instructional program where they will be given the support necessary to achieve their optimal potential.

The needs of certain children are so great, however, that special instructional programs, special facilities, or services are necessary beyond those of the regular classroom program. The board will provide the opportunity for specialized instruction for these children so far as it is possible.

Special programs will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the law and state regulations.

### **Gifted and Talented Program**

The term “gifted and talented” means students who are identified as possessing demonstrated or potential abilities that give evidence of high performing capabilities in intellectual, creative, specific academics or leadership areas, or the ability in the performing or visual arts and who require children of outstanding abilities who are capable of high performance and require services or activities not ordinarily provided by the District in order to fully develop such capabilities.

By law, the District is required to provide for special instructional needs of gifted and talented children enrolled in the District. The Board, in conjunction with the Superintendent and staff, shall develop the State required plan for the District’s gifted/talented program. The Plan shall include a philosophy statement, definition of giftedness, program goals, program options, identification procedures and a program evaluation. The District’s initial plan was submitted to the Department of Education on November 5, 2003. Pursuant to State Board mandate, the Plan will be updated every three (3) years.

The Board designates the Superintendent to be responsible for development, supervision and implementation of the District’s gifted and talented program. Such program shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Expansion of academic attainments and intellectual skills;
2. Stimulation of intellectual curiosity, independence and responsibility
3. Development of a positive attitude toward self and others; and

