

Gifted and Talented

Soaring Heights Charter School Gifted and Talented Program is designed for students when compared to their chronological peers, possess or demonstrate exceptionally high levels of ability in one or more content areas. The various Gifted and Talented programs are created by Soaring Heights staff and are designed to engage and challenge the students. The Enrichment Program begins in October and continues through May. Topics and activities vary from year to year.

Within the regular classroom, teachers differentiate instruction to challenge, motivate and engage the higher learners. The students for the enrichment program are selected by teacher recommendation, MAPs and NJSLA Assessment scores. Students in the program will work in small groups with two instructors to engage with complex information, abstract ideas, and advanced skills twice a week for 17 weeks. Students will take a pre and post test for each unit to determine growth in the topics studied. All gifted students will be included regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, disability, income or language.

Gifted and Talented Appeal Process

Overview: New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:8-3.1 defines students who are gifted and talented as those students who possess or demonstrate high levels of ability in one or more content areas when compared to their chronological peers in the local district and who require modification of their educational program if they are to achieve in accordance with their capabilities.

The complaint shall include:

1. The name, address, and contact information of the complainant;
2. A statement that identifies Soaring Heights as not in compliance with the provisions of this act, and the specific facts on which the allegation of non-compliance is based.

An individual who believes that Soaring Heights has not complied with the provisions of this Act may file a complaint with the Director. Based on the decision of the Director the individual may file a petition of appeal in writing to the Board of Trustees.

Complaint Procedure:

1. The parent/guardian shall submit the specific concern to the school in writing.
2. The Gifted and Talented Coordinator shall notify the Director of such grievance.
3. The grievance committee and the Director shall hear the grievance within 30 days. The Committee shall then make the recommendation for action or non-action. This recommendation will be discussed with the appealing party in a scheduled meeting within 15 days.
4. If the recommendation is that the student will now be eligible for the Gifted and Talented services, he/she may begin receiving services as soon as the parent/guardian signs the permission slip.

5. If the recommendation is that the student is determined to be not eligible for the Gifted and Talented Program, a written appeal may be made to the Soaring Heights Board of Trustees, which shall have the final decision.