

## Keystone Local Schools

### Administration

Daniel White  
Superintendent  
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Keystone High School  
James Kohler, Principal  
John Brown, Assistant Principal  
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Keystone Middle School  
Gina Gibson, Principal  
Tera Thomas, Assistant Principal  
440-355-2200

Keystone Elementary School  
Jacob Alferio, Principal  
Taylor Brouse, Assistant Principal  
440-355-2300



### District Gifted Coordinator

Dr. Donna Knight, EdD  
Gifted Intervention Specialist  
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440-355-2228

### District Psychologist

Cathleen Walker  
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## *Parent Information*

## Educational Programming for Identified Academically Talented Students



## Keystone Local School District

**531 Opportunity Way  
Lagrange, OH 44050**

Keystone Local Schools:  
[www.keystonelocalschools.org](http://www.keystonelocalschools.org)

## Identification

The identification process is in compliance with the Ohio Department of Education guidelines, and uses only nationally normed tests on the state approved list. Subjective criteria are not used.

**Referral:** Students can be referred for assessment by parents, teachers, or students. Referral forms are available in the office of each school building or from the District Gifted Coordinator. Any student referred will be assessed in October or March, depending on the date of the referral.

**Screening:** Students are screened three times each school year in all grades 2-10 for Reading and Math using the Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP), and once in grades two and five using a state approved testing measurement.

**Assessment:** Following screening, small group and individual assessment is provided for potentially gifted students by qualified personnel.

**Assurances:** The district meets the ODE requirements for evaluation of students who are culturally diverse, economically disadvantaged, students with physical and sensory disabilities and students who have limited English proficiency. The district identifies using only state approved tests which are administered by trained personnel.

**Written Education Plans:** Education plans are written on a one-year basis for all students who are identified and served.

**Outside Testing:** The district will accept outside testing for gifted if the test is on the state approved list, and was conducted in the previous twenty-four months.

**Transfer Students:** The district will review testing from previous schools to determine whether students qualify for services in Keystone Local Schools. Scores need to be from the previous twenty-four months.

**Acceleration:** The district has a state approved plan in place. The specific referral, screening and assessment process is detailed on the Keystone Local Schools website.

**Appeal:** The district has an appeals process for decisions regarding screening and identification. The initial step in the process is to submit a written statement to the building principal explaining your reason for the appeal of identification.

**Waiver:** The district has a waiver of assignments procedure in place.

**Withdrawal:** The district has procedures by which the parents can withdraw their students from service if they feel the child is unsuccessful in the service or that the service is not meeting the needs of the child. Parents should contact the district Gifted Coordinator or the building principal for an initial conference. If a student is not achieving or struggling with the expectations of the service, a parent-teacher conference will determine if this is the most appropriate placement. Withdrawal requires parent permission.

## Program Services

Subject areas are differentiated from the regular subject area class in terms of breadth, depth, and complexity. The Gifted Coordinator works with the classroom teacher to implement gifted strategies. In addition, the gifted processes are intertwined with the instruction which enhances Ohio's New Learning Standards. Student service is guided by Written Education Plans.

### Grades 1-5

- ◆ Reading and/or Math Cluster as long as two or more students are identified in the content area.
- ◆ Criteria: 95% in Specific Academic *or* a qualifying Superior Cognitive Ability Score

Services are in the form of a single subject clustered classroom with the focus on Reading or Mathematics. Students receive high-level instruction that is differentiated to meet their abilities and extends beyond the grade-level standards.

### Grades 6-12

- ◆ Honors Reading / Language Arts
- ◆ Honors /Accelerated Mathematics / Math Clusters
- ◆ Honors/Accelerated Sciences Options
- ◆ Honors Social Studies Options
- ◆ Criteria: 95% in Specific Academic *or* a qualifying Superior Cognitive Ability Score

Services are in the form of a single subject honors classroom with the focus on Reading, Mathematics, Science or Social Studies.

### Grades 9-12

- ◆ Advanced Placement classes
- ◆ College Credit Plus (CCP) programs

Students must meet district criteria for placement. CCP courses are offered on district campus through Lorain County Community College, and off campus at various colleges and universities.

### Grades 1-12

- ◆ Visual and Performing Arts services and classes specific to student identification.

## Gifted Identification Notice

Keystone Local Schools gifted identification plan identifies students in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and visual and/or performing arts ability. The identification process consists of three phases: pre-assessment, assessment for screening, and assessment for identification. Parents are notified of testing results within 30 days after all testing is complete.

Specific criteria for identification are used for each area. Teachers or parents may refer children for identification by completing and submitting a referral form which is available at each building.

### Gifted Service Notice

Keystone's program mission is to meet the needs of the diverse population in the school district. Keystone offers equal access to services for identified students.

Gifted service is delivered by a certified grade level teacher with supervision by a certified gifted coordinator.

Student learning is guided by written education plans which are shared with parents by mail or through parent conferences. The district has a waiver of assignment procedure in place.

The district has procedures by which the parents can withdraw their students from service by contacting the child's building principal.

### Written Education Plans

All students identified and served in a gifted program must be on a Written Education Plan in compliance with the Ohio Operating Standards. Service is reported to the Ohio Department of Education—Office for Exceptional Children.