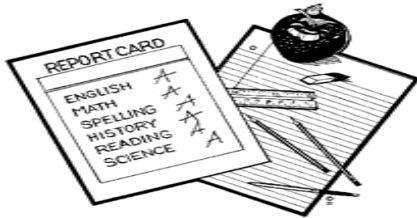


## HOW STUDENTS ARE IDENTIFIED

Parents, teachers, and community members refer students. The following criteria are used to determine whether or not a student qualifies for PAT placement:

- Scores from an intelligence or abilities test
- Scores from the most recent standardized achievement test
- Information from a Parent Questionnaire
- Information from a Teacher Questionnaire
- Team recommendation from PAT selection committee

The assessment tools help to determine whether or not the grade level curriculum can adequately challenge the students. Students whose scores are in the exceptional range in either Language Arts or Math are considered for placement in PAT program options designed to provide a more rigorous level of challenge in the student's specific area of expertise.



## THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

The identification process begins with referrals in late November and December. Testing takes place in January and team recommendations for program inclusion are made in March and April. Students are selected for placement for the following year. The referral and test dates are publicized in the local papers and school newsletters. Parents are notified of placement decisions results by the end of the school year.

## PAT TIMELINE

November - December	Referral Period
January	Testing & Evaluation
February-March	Test scoring
March and April	Placement Team Meetings
April-May	Parent Notification/Visits
September	PAT services begin



## WHY WE TEST

PAT testing is used to identify students, who have an accelerated learning rate or complex thinking style, so we can maximize their learning experiences by providing appropriate challenge.

**Highly capable students need to be able to:**

- **move through the curriculum at a faster pace**
- **apply research and project development skills**
- **interact with their cognitive peers daily**
- **explore issues, themes, and ideas that connect various subjects**



*Riverview School District*

## **Program for the Academically Talented PAT**

Services for Highly Capable  
Students

## Elementary School Program Description

For information call:

Doug Poage  
Director of PAT Program  
(425) 844-4553

e-mail: [poaged@riverview.wednet.edu](mailto:poaged@riverview.wednet.edu)

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The primary focus for the **Program for the Academically Talented (PAT)** is to help highly academically talented students achieve at their optimal level in their identified talent area(s). Teachers are committed to providing challenging curriculum and to maintaining high expectations for the PAT students. Placing PAT students in classes with more rigorous course work helps teachers provide appropriate cognitive challenge.

## **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES**

The Elementary Program for the Academically Talented begins at second grade. This program uses an option based service model. Once accepted into the program children continue to be enrolled until the end of fifth grade. The parent of a qualified child may yearly apply for the option that best meets his/her child's needs. The following options are included within this model.

### **Option 1 - Full Day Class**

PAT students attend a full day, every day class. This class is currently based at Carnation Elementary. The full day class provides curriculum acceleration, opportunities to study concepts in greater depth and cognitive interaction for second through fifth grade PAT students. Critical thinking skills, the arts and technology are infused across the curriculum. Students are part of the Carnation Elementary community; they are included in assemblies, recesses, school projects, services by various specialists and grade level fieldtrips. Students are selected for this class based on a PAT matrix ranking, with the highest students being selected. A second-third class and a fourth-fifth class are provided. Once selected for this class, students continue from year to year, unless parents and/or staff determine the class is no longer appropriate for

the child. This is an accelerated and challenging class with a fun child-centered focus.

### **Transportation for Option 1**

Transportation to this class is ultimately the parent's responsibility as with any child who applies for a within district waiver. However, students may elect to ride the shuttle bus provided by the district. Many of the students from Cherry Valley and Stillwater do take this shuttle however some parents elect to transport their children independently or by car-pooling with other parents.

### **Option 2 - Cluster Classes**

Within the cluster class option PAT students are clustered within one or two classrooms per grade level at each school site. Some years there are not enough children at a particular grade level within a school to form a cluster. A committee has developed a PAT framework for cluster classes. This framework is used to help the classroom teacher determine and provide daily curriculum and instruction. The clustering of PAT students provides them with some cognitive peer interaction and allows the teacher to group them as appropriate. PAT cluster teachers receive a grant that they may use for training, materials, substitutes to allow them to spend more time with PAT students, and/or curriculum planning for their PAT students. Parents tend to choose this model so that their children can stay at their home school. This is a teacher driven program and each individual teacher determines the program within his/her class in accordance with the PAT framework. This can vary from year to year.

### **Option 3 - Regular Classes**

Parents may enroll their PAT eligible child in a regular classroom following the normal school procedures. The regular classroom teacher provides the program of instruction within his/her normal classroom model and is responsible for meeting the

needs of the children within the class. Although no direct PAT support is provided, PAT materials may be checked out of the school library.

## **TEACHER SUPPORT SERVICES**

- Training opportunities are offered.
- Materials and alternative curriculum are available or can be ordered.
- Release time for planning or for gifted education conferences is available.
- Consultation services are available upon request.

## **BEYOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Services for highly academically talented students are also provided at the middle school and the high school.

At the end of fifth grade every student in the district is considered for inclusion in accelerated math classes and for inclusion in the Tolt Honors Options within the regular Language Arts classes. The testing is done through the standard district tests in fourth and fifth grade. Students are not automatically continued in PAT from the elementary, they must requalify. Any student may chose to attempt the Tolt Language Arts Honors options whether or not they qualify for PAT. Tolt also offers an eighth grade Honors Language Arts class. At the high school level students may take honors classes and/or receive college credit for their work through advanced placement courses at Cedarcrest and/or Running Start classes at a community college.