



Hello Pinewoods Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the new school year. We are excited to share with all of you our school wide screening for the gifted program for the 2024-2025 school year. Some of these changes are due to district and state changes to the State's educational system but this also allows us to screen and evaluate all of the children within our building. We understand that performance and criteria will change as students age and tests change so we, at Pinewoods Elementary, will continually adapt and update you annually as these procedures may change.

The gifted program within the State of Florida is defined as a student who falls within the top 2% of the population. This roughly translates to 3 students at each grade level¹. As you can see this is a relatively rare occurrence and, as such, Pinewoods has always and will continue to meet the academic and intellectual needs of all of our students regardless of eligibility for the gifted program. Nothing in our teaching or programing will change.

Our current and continuing process to support and identify students' needs begins with our grade-level Professional Learning Communities (PLC). During these weekly meetings, students' needs are discussed and how to address those needs is planned. The referrals for all programs within the school will be generated through the PLCs, including nominations for screening for the gifted program.

We would like to remind families that only 2% of the population should fall within the range of "gifted" (130 or above and at the 98th percentile). And qualifying for the program is quite rare and extremely difficult. Your child's needs will be met within our classrooms and at Pinewoods Elementary regardless of whether or not they qualify for the gifted program. Interested families are encouraged to discuss with your child's teacher what enrichment activities are available to your child within the classroom.

