



Descriptions of Gifted Services in Districts Neighboring BPS 101

The attached spreadsheet is neither exhaustive in its scope of information provided, nor in the representation of all of Batavia's neighboring districts. What the data included on the spreadsheet represents is a snapshot of information CANDO was able to collect on area programs for gifted and high-ability students.

Upon review of the spreadsheet data, it might be noted that there are some empty cells accompanying descriptions of services in some of the districts we contacted. CANDO has made multiple attempts over the past two months to interview representatives from the districts we contacted for our survey of area programs. In some cases, those representatives did not provide a complete description of their current level of programming, and have not responded to CANDO's request for further information. This spreadsheet remains an open document. CANDO hopes to continue conversations with our neighboring districts to learn more about the services they offer their gifted and high-ability students as we work collaboratively to support development of the best possible services for these student populations in Batavia.

There are a few notable differences in the services Batavia provides, when compared to our neighboring districts:

- Batavia is the only district without a designated staff delivery of instruction to gifted and high-ability elementary students. Our mode of instruction varies by grade level and across schools in Batavia. Neighboring districts use instructors who are either specialists or regular classroom teachers with specific assignments for instruction of groups of gifted or high-ability students.

- Batavia is one of only three responding districts that chooses to eliminate students previously identified as “gifted” from receiving services after transitioning to middle or high school if those students do not “re-qualify” as gifted when re-evaluated at those transition points. And in one of those districts (Kaneland), students identified for elimination from gifted services can choose to attend summer school to remediate coursework or take additional courses needed to “re-qualify” for gifted services in Kaneland.
- Some of our neighboring districts offer two levels of service delivery, thereby including both gifted and high-ability students in differentiated instruction opportunities.
- Two neighboring districts have magnet schools for gifted students.

Thank you for reviewing the attached information and considering how it might inform Batavia’s process of service definition for gifted and high-ability students.

The 2014-15 CANDO Executive Board