

Penn-Harris-Madison Fifth Grade High Ability Identification Process

Mathematics and Language Arts

August

Continuation of Services

Students who have previously been identified as High Ability will continue with that identification and receive appropriate services.



December

Aptitude Assessment

Most students will take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), an aptitude assessment. Students take the verbal (reading) and quantitative (math) tests. The only students who do not participate are the students who were previously identified as High Ability. If a student is identified High Ability in one subject, he/she will take the CogAT assessment for the subject in which they are not already identified High Ability. A student who scores in the 95%ile or higher is identified as High Ability.



February

Achievement Assessment

Students will take the NWEA test or tests if they:

- attained a score between 70-94% on the CogAT quantitative test
- attained a score between 70-94% on the CogAT verbal test
- qualified through a teacher nomination

Students who score in the 95%ile or higher on the Reading assessment are identified as High Ability in Language Arts. Students who score in the 95%ile or higher on the Math assessment are identified as High Ability in Math.



April

Notification and Invitation

A letter will be sent to the parents of the students who were identified as High Ability in one or both subjects.



May

Reviews and Appeals

If parents would like to appeal the decision or test results, they may complete an appeal application. They may also provide samples of their child's work. After these items are submitted to the principal of the school, a committee will meet to review the materials to determine whether further NWEA testing is needed. The due date for parent appeals will be posted on the PHM High Ability website in April.