



Challenging Students. Maximizing Potential.

Assessment Notification

Dear 2nd grade Irwin Families –

This fall Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) will screen second grade students as the first step in determining identification as academically gifted. The screening will include administration of the *Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)* at the beginning of September. The *CogAT* includes verbal, nonverbal, and quantitative reasoning questions. There is no way to study or prepare for the *CogAT*. It is better to encourage your child to be relaxed. Plenty of sleep and a good breakfast are helpful since alert students perform better.

Special needs students will be given an alternate assessment based upon the requirements of their Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan.

- Students whose age-composite score is 96% or greater on the *CogAT* will identify as AIG in both reading and math with parent written permission.
- Students who score between an 87-95% on the *CogAT* will be referred for additional testing using the *Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)*. This nationally-normed test identifies your child's achievement in both reading and math. **You will be notified and required to give written permission for testing if your child is referred to participate in the *ITBS*.**
- CMS students who score between an 92-95% on the *CogAT* or have three *t-scores* of 65 or higher on the *Gifted Rating Scale* will be eligible to participate in the CMS portfolio identification process if necessary.
****Due to Irwin Academic Center being an LI/TD magnet school, all of Irwin's second grade students are eligible to participate in the portfolio process if necessary.***

Irwin Academic Center's CogAT Testing Days:

Tuesday, September 9

Wednesday, September 10

Thursday, September 11

If you have any questions, please contact the Talent Development Teacher at your child's school:

Emily Foley - emilyk.foley@cms.k12.nc.us

or visit our website: <http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/ci/astd/Pages/default.aspx>

Thank you for your support!