



# Spartanburg School District Three

*All-In. Every Child, every day, whatever it takes!*

October 8, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

All second grade students in the state of South Carolina are screened for identification for the Gifted and Talented program. Spartanburg School District Three's Gifted and Talented Program begins in grade three. The identification of gifted and talented students is a multi-step process that consists of screening and referral, assessment of eligibility and placement. Students identified this school year can begin services Fall 2021, if they meet the South Carolina criteria for gifted qualification. Students who qualify receive advanced and enriched instruction during the school week.

Qualification is based on test performance for high achievement in reading and/or mathematics (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) and for aptitude/reasoning (CogAT). Also, results from your child's most recent results on national and state tests (such as Measures of Academic Progress MAP) will be reviewed for reading and math achievement. Your child will participate in aptitude and reasoning assessments during the test window of **October 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**. There will be two days of testing scheduled for your child's assigned group. If absent due to illness, your child will be rescheduled for make-up testing.

Group A: Students with the last names of A-L

October 26 (8:00-11:30) – CogAT  
October 27 (8:00 – 10:30) – Iowa  
October 30 – Make-Up

Group B: Students with the last names of M-Z

October 28 (8:00-11:30) – CogAT  
October 29 (8:00 – 10:30) – Iowa  
October 30 – Make-Up

Students should arrive at Cowpens Elementary School by 8:00 AM on their designated days. Parents may wait in the parking lot or return to pick up your child at the end of the testing sessions. There is nothing your child needs to study or practice before testing. Things you can do to help your child include:

- ✓ Encourage your child to do his/her best.
- ✓ Make sure your child is on time for school.
- ✓ Make sure your child is well rested during the testing period.
- ✓ Your child should either have eaten breakfast at home or at school.

Additional assessments might be needed in the spring. You will be notified by February of your child's nomination status. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Windy Hodge".

Windy Hodge  
Coordinator of Accountability and Federal Program