**New Holland-Middletown ESD #88**

**Accelerated Plan**



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***Section I: Introduction***

1. [The Accelerated Placement Act](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/100/100-0421.htm) expands services to **ALL** students, not only those identified as gifted and talented by local policy, who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. The Act requires the development of local policy to identify such students through a fair and equitable decision-making and multiple measure assessment process.
2. **New Holland Middletown’s**  Accelerated Placement Plan provides support for with readily available action steps. Through this plan, NHM has developed systems to identify advanced learners and meet their [learning needs](https://teams.microsoft.com/_#/docx/viewer/teams/https:~2F~2Fisbe.sharepoint.com~2Fsites~2FCICollaborative~2FShared%20Documents~2FGeneral~2FAccelerated%20Placement%20Documents~2FPersonalized%20Learning%20Plan.docx?threadId=19:5716f4a0c2db453795804a33cc9ce64e@thread.skype&baseUrl=https). This process can be done through whole grade acceleration and single-subject acceleration.

***Section II: Purpose***

Many children are ready for advancement in one or two areas of development. Full grade acceleration at a young age, may not be appropriate, however, grade level acceleration may be considered at another point in time. Early access is intended to support students who are evaluated to be exceptional in aptitude, academics, school readiness and motivation. Early access is a local decision of the administrative team.

***Section III: Process***

NHM will work collaboratively with parents, educators for evaluation referrals.

**Timeline**

* Applications for early access are due by April 1 for the next school year.
* Determinations shall be made within 60 days of receiving a child’s portfolio
* A student shall be age 4 by October 1 for Kindergarten and age 5 by October 1 for first grade.

**Notifications:**

Information about criteria for identifying a highly advanced gifted child for early access is deemed appropriate, specific assessments and scores will be used to make final decisions concerning a student.

An advanced learning plan for the advanced child will be developed.

**Evaluation:**

* Students will be tested using local assessments to determine eligibility for advanced placement.
* A screening tool will be used by the parent and child’s current teacher if applicable.
* Information about the performance of the child that provides evidence of a need for early access evaluation such as readiness factors, portfolios

**Decision Making**

* Early access will be a consensus process by the team that analyzes multiple criteria form a body of evidence resulting in a student profile of strengths and interests. Test scores alone will not determine early access or subject level acceleration.

**Monitoring Performance**

* Student’s teacher shall monitor performance every year

***Determination:***

* Team of educators will evaluate student performance and determine if the child is a candidate for next level acceleration. A student may score at the 97th percentile or above but not have data that supports school readiness. The decision whether or not a student qualifies is up to the discretion of the education team.