KEY IDENTIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS FOR CULTURALLY, LINGUISTICALLY & SOCIOECONOMICALLY DIVERSE GIFTED LEARNERS

What is a gifted child?

A label of 'gifted' should be a **diagnostic** one that provides useful information about how an **individual** child **learns** (**acquires, processes, and applies** information), to inform curricular and instructional decisions for that child.

> "Outstanding talents are present in children from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor"
>
> Source:
> *National Excellence: A Case for Developing America's Talent,*
> U.S. Department of Education (1993)

Identification systems should allow for schools to equitably engage in *Talent Development* for **high-potential learners**, and *Talent Enhancement* for **high-achieving**/**performing learners** – and the system should be one based on notions of **inclusion** (*helping students to grow and achieve according to their demonstrated ability and potential*) and **differentiation** based on need, rather than **exclusion** (*a single source cut-score*).

Schools should see these domains as *a part of*, and not *apart from*, the academic diversity they experience and serve on their campuses.

Multiple Measures

Comparisons should be made with students who have had **similar opportunities to acquire similar skills** – though national comparisons also provide useful information.

- Achievement, Aptitude, and Ability
- Rapidity of English Language Acquisition
- Gifted Characteristics Checklists
- The Power of Pre-Assessment
- Student Portfolio
- Recommendation:
  Parent, Teacher, Peer, Student
- Student Interests, Motivation, and Persistence

Match the Program with the Needs of the Identified Child…

- High Ability + High Achievement
- High Ability + Average or Low Achievement

…While Developing and Nurturing Potential: *The Talent Pool Model…*

- High Potential + High Achievement
- High Potential + Average or Low Achievement

   You Can't Ignore the Data!

Self Reflections…

- Are your Policies, Processes and Procedures for Gifted Identification and Programs *Inclusive, Diverse, & Differentiated* Based on Your Student Population?
- Does your Identified Gifted Student Population Match Your School Population?
- Does your Pool of ***Recommended*** Students Match your School Population?

Cast a Wide Net!