

# CHARACTERISTICS OF GIFTED STUDENTS

**The Manor ISD definition of giftedness is based on the state definition:**

*“Gifted and talented student” means a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who: (1) exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area; (2) possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or (3) excels in a specific academic field. Texas Legislature 1995.*

**Gifted/talented individuals frequently possess one or more of the following characteristics:**

## **1. Verbal Proficiency**

- Large vocabulary
- Facility of expression
- Breadth of information

## **2. Power of Abstraction**

- Interest in inductive learning and problem solving
- High level of conceptualization
- Pleasure in intellectual activity

## **3. Intellectual Curiosity**

- Interest in a wide range of things
- Willingness for complexity
- Persistent pursuit of goals

## **4. Retentiveness/Power of Concentration**

- Intense attention
- Retains and uses information
- Long attention span

## **5. Independence/Goal Directed**

- Self-initiated student
- Pursues individual interests
- Seeks direction

## **6. Power of Critical Thinking**

- Self-criticism
- Skepticism
- Adept in analyzing strengths and weaknesses

## **7. Sensitivity/Intuitiveness**

- High level of awareness
- Keenly observant
- Emotional depth

## **8. Potential for Creativity**

- Inventiveness
- Liking for new ways of doing things
- Interest in brainstorming, freewheeling

## **9. Versatility/Virtuosity**

- Diversity of interests and abilities
- Many hobbies
- Proficiency in art forms such as music and drawing