

# Intradistrict Communication

DATE: Thursday, September 23, 2021

TO: Elementary School Administrators

FROM: Shelley Nordick, Ph.D., Administrator of Teaching and Learning  
Ben Jameson, Director of Evaluation, Research and Accountability  
Rebecca Smith, Consultant over ALPS/Gifted and Talented

SUBJECT: Universal CogAt Testing of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Training and Test Administration

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Principals are asked to share the following information with their school test coordinator and 6th grade teachers.

As approved by the Jordan School District Board of Education, we will administer the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) to all 6th grade students between October 25 and December 3, 2021 (similar to last year's test administration). The CogAT measures general reasoning abilities in three domains: verbal, quantitative and spatial. These abilities reflect the cognitive processes and strategies that enable individuals to learn new tasks and solve problems. The results of the assessment will:

- Inform middle school programming decisions.
- Identify students with high-potential in an equitable manner.
- Provide helpful data about students' abilities and needs.

The test will be administered online, during school hours. Students will need to use their own Chromebooks for this if schools have closed their stationary computer labs. 6th grade teachers may proctor the testing with assistance from school test coordinators. All testing coordinators need to attend a two hour in-person training that is offered multiple times during the next few weeks. We also recommend that an administrative designee (principal or assistant principal) sign up for the training as well, so they can help as needed.

The form used to sign up for the training is: <https://forms.gle/hG7ZDNKuZo9ThUAd7>

**All trainings will be held in PDC 113 at the ASB (7905 South Redwood Road). Dates and Times for training are:**

- **Tue. October 5, 2021 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.**
- **Tue. October 5, 2021 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**
- **Wed. October 13, 2021 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.**
- **Wed. October 13, 2021 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are asked to help monitor the testing events. School administrators, 6th grade teachers, and the site testing coordinator can collaborate to set a testing schedule that will best meet the school's needs. Once you have determined what dates and times you will test your students, please enter that information [here](#). **The CogAt testing window begins on Monday, October 25 and ends on Friday, December 3, 2021.**

The actual testing time is 90 minutes (with set up and instructions, plan for two hours). The test sections include:

- Quantitative – Three 10-minute subtests (the first testing session may take a few more minutes due to an optional, short system tutorial)
- Nonverbal – Three 10-minute subtests
- Verbal – Three 10-minute subtests

The assessment can be administered in three separate sessions across multiple days or within one day. It can also be administered in one complete session.

There are three practice tests that should be reviewed with students 1-2 days before test administration. These practice test packets will be sent to your teachers over the next two weeks. The practice tests are designed to help students become familiar with the types of questions found on the assessment. Reviewing the practice tests will standardize the testing experience.

- Each practice test can be done as a whole class, using a projection system.
- A hardcopy of the practice assessments will be provided to each 6th grade teacher.
- Either the teacher or the proctor can review the practice tests with the students.

Within the next week, the Jordan District Communications office will distribute parent notification letters in regards to the CogAT testing. If parents choose to opt out of the assessment, they will bring the opt out form to the school. Results of the assessment will be shared with you and with parents after the assessment process is complete.

For more information about the CogAT assessment, please visit:

- <https://www.riversideinsights.com/solutions/cogat>
- <https://www.riversideinsights.com/apps/cogat>

Please contact Kira Jensen (88112) about the test administration or the Gifted/Talented Department about other CogAt-related questions.