

**According to the results from the Student Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Students consistently indicated that they felt comfortable attending the gifted classes and felt it was important to attend regularly.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? 3 of the schools had students preferring more freedom of choice, while 2 schools indicated that make-up work had to be completed after gifted education classes.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? ASAP, administrators will be addressing the faculty and staff at their respective schools to ensure that students will not be required to complete work missed during gifted education classes. Also, teachers will be planning next year's units with more student choices.

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**According to the results from the Parent Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Parents of all schools noted the positive attitudes of the gifted education teachers and their commitment to meeting the students' needs through the program.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Parents indicated that they would like to be involved with the planning of the gifted education curriculum.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? With the parents stating that they want to be more involved with the planning of the curriculum, some schools are researching the idea of developing a parent affiliate group to help with planning and fundraising for technology and field trips.

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**According to the results from the Teacher Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Overwhelmingly, results from teachers indicated that they valued the gifted education teachers' positive attitude and respect for the students. Regular education teachers also noted that they agreed with the program's efforts to help students think creatively and critically.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Teachers did note that the program and its educators should involve parents more in the planning process.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? Each school and the district administration will be working with different types of media to publicize the mission and purpose of the gifted education program. Also, each school will be researching the effectiveness of individual parent committees.

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**According to the results from the Community Member Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Various community members and business partners completed the survey noting strengths such as, the gifted education program was an asset to the school's regular education program and the program was effectively exposing students to new areas of learning.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Members and partners also noted improvement in the areas of parental involvement and obtaining adequate technology equipment.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? Teachers and students will begin participating in more community service projects and communication with parents will be strengthened through parent committees and representatives. Teachers will also seek more opportunities for grant writing to obtain more technological devices.

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**Final Report Findings**

Overall, the results indicated that the gifted studies program is meeting the needs and interests of the students who are demonstrating unusually high potential. The program is fostering critical and creative thinking using the resources and equipment provided. The gifted educators are actively seeking ways to improve their own teaching/learning strategies and actively seeking ways to communicate these strategies to the parents and community.

After the results of the surveys were analyzed, the administration and educators noted the need to involve the community and parents more in the gifted curriculum planning process. Therefore, the individual schools are planning to develop parent committees that will bring in other parents to the planning/implementation process.



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**According to the results from the Student Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Students consistently reported their belief that it was important to attend; their enjoyment of interaction with other gifted students; the use of technology; and belief that they were challenged by the program.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Forty-four percent reported having to make up work from the day when they returned to class. Students also desired more freedom of choice in their topics of study.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** Students need to be given more freedom about the direction and topics of study. Teachers need to work on communicating to students that their ideas are respected and valued, even if not always followed.

**According to the results from the Parent Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Parents consistently rated program high in the following areas: gifted child needs being met; teachers having a positive attitude; classrooms providing comfortable environment; child uses technology in classroom; and the program allows students to be challenged by greater exposure to new areas of learning.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Parent's ratings were more diverse in the following areas: Knowledge of what child's teacher expects of my child; knowledge of how well my child is progressing in the gifted program; parent involvement in planning.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** The program needs to improve its communication with parents and parent involvement in the planning process.



**According to the results from the Teacher Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** The teacher survey repeatedly showed strengths in these areas: gifted students needs are being met; gifted teacher has a positive attitude; classrooms provide a comfortable environment; administration support gifted program; program provides for the needs of the atypical student.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Teacher ratings were more diverse in the following areas: school includes parents in planning and guiding of gifted children; classrooms are adequately equipped with technology; teacher education opportunities in the area of gifted are provided for staff.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** The program needs to work on communication with and the training of regular education teachers on the gifted program.

**According to the results from the Community Member Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Community ratings were high in the following areas: the gifted program frequently publicizes activities at the school; that the gifted program provides greater exposure to new areas of learning; the program is an important asset to our schools; programs teach creative problem solving.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Community ratings were more diverse in the following areas: community involvement in planning; that the program is adequately equipped with technology; the program invites community members to participate in school events.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** The program needs to reach out to the community members to become actively involved in our program. Again the program needs to work on communication.

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**Final Report Findings**

**Overall, list the strengths/weaknesses of the gifted studies program:** The following are consistently reported strengths: the gifted program frequently publicizes activities at the school; that the gifted program provides greater exposure to new areas of learning; the program is an important asset to our schools; program teaches creative problem solving; gifted children needs are being met; classrooms are providing a comfortable environment; the program allows students to be challenged by greater exposure to new areas of learning; the use of technology, and belief that they were challenged by the program

The following are consistently reported weakness: school does not includes parents in planning and guiding of gifted children; classrooms are not adequately equipped with technology; teacher education opportunities in the area of gifted are not provided for staff; parent lack knowledge of what child's teacher expects of from child; parent knowledge of how well their child is progressing in the gifted program; community involvement in planning

**What, if anything, to you plan to do differently at your school to improve the gifted studies program?**

The school's gifted program will implement changes in order to open the lines of communication between each of these entities. Opportunities to educate the regular education teacher on the gifted program will be planned and provided with the assistance of the school administration. Our program is apparently not providing adequate communication to keep parents, community members and other teachers informed on the purpose and goals of the gifted program. Possibilities for this outreach will be newsletters, email, publications, and special training.



**According to the results from the Student Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Students feel comfortable and respected at Star Reach, and they feel that it is important to attend regularly.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Use of technology and freedom of choices in work are weaknesses.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? Star Reach teachers need to incorporate technology more into the program and frequently provide students with more choices.



**According to the results from the Parent Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Teachers have a positive attitude and treat students with respect. Parents feel comfortable communicating with teachers and administrators.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Including parents in the planning for the gifted program is a weakness.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? Parent communication of planning and expectations of students need to be improved.



**According to the results from the Teacher Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Teachers show a positive attitude and respect for gifted students and the gifted program. Gifted classes are challenging and provide opportunities for critical and creative thinking.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Technology and roomy learning environment are weaknesses in the program.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? More opportunities for using technology need to be included in the program. Facilities are uncomfortably small with teachers sharing classrooms.



**According to the results from the Community Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? The Star Reach program is an important asset to our schools and students will benefit in future endeavors from participating in the program.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Comfortable learning environments and adequate technology are weaknesses. The students in the gifted program need to be more involved in community service projects.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? Facilities and equipment need to be improved for the program. Community service projects should be included more frequently in planning.

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**Final Report Findings**

Overall, list the strengths/weaknesses of the gifted studies program: Teacher attitude and respect for students is a strength. Weaknesses include use of technology and parent involvement in planning.

What, if anything, to you plan to do differently at your school to improve the gifted studies program? Teachers will incorporate more technology in lessons and consider different ways of funding for technology. Communication and input from parents will be improved. Planning should include a variety of community service projects.

**According to the results from the Student Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? The degree of comfort in the classroom, respect by teachers, study of interest, challenging content, no make-up work from regular classroom, importance of the program, and positive interaction between gifted teachers and students were indicated of strengths.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? The freedom of topic choices for students and the use of technology in the classroom were weaknesses.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? There needs to be more choices for student interests, more technology opportunities and more technology available in the classroom.

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**According to the results from the Parent Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Parents felt that their child's needs were being met, other teachers respected their gifted child, they also believed that the children had extended learning experiences that were challenging in the gifted classroom, communication was a plus, their child seemed to be progressing, and that the gifted teachers had high expectations of their children.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Parents were not being included in the planning/guiding process of the gifted program.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? A Parent Affiliate group for Star Reach should be created for input with the advisement of units, fund-raising, and field trips.

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**According to the results from the Teacher Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? The needs of the students are being met, other teachers respect their gifted children in the regular classroom, ample extended learning experiences that are challenging in the gifted program, communication between regular education teacher and gifted teachers, gifted teachers have high expectations and children are progressing in their education.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Parents consistently believe that parents aren't included in the planning and guiding of the gifted program.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? A Parent Affiliate groups needs to be created to help with the planning of each upcoming year and to help with fundraising needs for supplies, technology and for field trip experiences

**According to the results from the Community Member Surveys,**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Teachers believe that gifted teachers have a positive attitude towards gifted students, gifted classrooms are inviting and challenging. There is great communication between gifted teachers and regular ed. Teachers.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Teachers believe that technology is not adequate for the gifted classroom, parents need to have more input of units of interest, there needs to be more regular educator opportunities in the area of gifted children, students need to have exposure to new areas of learning.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? A parent advisory committee needs to be created that will provide input to the gifted programming, gifted teachers provide in-service for school about gifted students, process of referral, and overall giftedness. Students need more input on interests and ability and as well as more administrator support.

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### **Final Report Findings**

Overall, list the strengths/weaknesses of the gifted studies program? Overall, the program has many positives that include communication, programming, and strength of programming. The weaknesses of the program were pretty much the same ones throughout the 3 different type of surveys that included the lack of technologies available(which is school wide), training for the regular education teachers in the area of gifted, and involving the parents in the gifted programming.

What, if anything, to you plan to do differently at your school to improve the gifted studies program? We plan to write more grants that will enable us to receive more technology in our gifted classrooms, create a Parent Affiliate group by the 2014-2015 school year, and provide in-service training for teachers on the gifted program and how to better teach gifted students.



**According to the results from the Student Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Students feel comfortable yet challenged at

Star Reach. They also feel that it is important for them to attend Star Reach in that they have fun while learning.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Survey results indicate that most students

feel that the Star Reach class size is too large.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** W.J.E. students indicated that they would like for the

classrooms that house Star Reach to be larger.

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**According to the results from the Parent Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Parents feel that the gifted teachers have a

positive attitude and respect their gifted children. They feel that the needs of their gifted children are being met through the Jones County School District Star Reach program.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** W.J.E. parents would like to have more opportunities for communication and parental involvement with Star Reach.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** Parents would like better communication with gifted teachers

and school administration.

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**According to the results from the Teacher Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Teachers believe that Star Reach provides classes

that facilitate opportunities for critical and creative thinking. They also feel Star Reach challenges students by exposing

them to new areas of learning.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Survey results indicated that teachers think the

Star Reach classrooms need more technology.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** Teachers feel that more informative educational opportunities

in the area of gifted and talented should be provided for the teaching staff.

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**According to the results from the Community Member Surveys,**

**Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?** Community members feel very strongly

that Star Reach provides students with great exposure in new areas of learning.

**Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?** Results indicated that more collaboration between community and Star Reach students is desired. Community members would like to be

invited to participate in events with Star Reach students.

**What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?** Community members would like to see more

community involvement with and technology in Star Reach.

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**Final Report Findings**

**Overall, list the strengths/weaknesses of the gifted studies program:** Exposing students to new and challenging units of

study is definitely a strength at W.J.E., while communication with people outside of gifted education is an area of

weakness.



**What, if anything, to you plan to do differently at your school to improve the gifted studies program? W.J.E. Star Reach**

teachers are working on creating a website which will provide students, parents, and community members an opportunity to keep up with Star Reach current events. The website will also provide important information related to gifted education and gifted students. WJE is excited about the future of our Star Reach program!

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**Jones County Schools  
Gifted Studies  
Needs Assessment Report Findings  
2013-2014- North Jones Ele.**

**According to results from the Student Surveys**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?

Students feel comfortable in Star Reach and feel it's important.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program?

N/A

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?

N/A

**According to the results from the Parent Surveys**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?

Students are comfortable in the gifted classroom and parents feel comfortable communicating with the gifted teachers.

Which areas were consistently indicated as a weakness for the program?

There were no consistent weaknesses from the results. We believe that from the results, parents would like for the school to include the parents in the planning and guiding of the program.

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised?

Have the "school" to provide information to educate the parents more about the gifted program.

**According to the results from the Teacher Surveys**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?

Teachers feel that the program challenges students to practice cognitive and affective thinking and that it also teaches critical and cognitive thinking.

Weaknesses: N/A

Corrected/Revised: N/A

### **According to the results from the Community Member Surveys**

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program?

Felt as though the gifted program provides greater exposure to new areas of learning within and without the school structure and that the gifted program is an important asset to our public schools.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weaknesses?

No areas were indicated as a weakness. Some felt as though updated and better technology would be great for adequate learning.

Corrected/Revised? N/A

### **Final Report Findings**

What, if anything, do you plan to do differently at your school to improve the gifted studies program?

We are sending out letters to communicate with parents about what students are studying.



According to the results from the Student Surveys,

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Feeling comfortable @ star reach, interest in topics of study, challenged to think critically, importance of regular attendance & enjoyment interacting with other gifted students.

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? Gifted students are sometimes required to make-up work in the regular classroom missed due to star reach

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? Teachers requiring star reach students to make-up work done during their star reach time

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According to the results from the Parent Surveys,

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Needs of gifted children are being met, teachers have a positive attitude & show respect for gifted children, gifted classrooms provide a comfortable learning experience, parents feel comfortable communicating with school administration and teachers

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? School including parents in the planning of gifted & talented children

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? more parental involvement

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According to the results from the Teacher Surveys,

Which areas were consistently indicated as strengths for the program? Positive attitude & respect for gifted children, comfortable learning experience, extended learning experiences & enrichment, curriculum that teaches critical/creative thinking as well as cognitive/affective thinking, students are challenged by

Which areas were consistently indicated as weakness for the program? School including  
parents in planning

What part of the program needs to be corrected/revised? " "

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**Final Report Findings**

Overall, list the strengths/weaknesses of the gifted studies program: Strengths: gifted  
students needs are being met weakness: more  
parental & Community involvement needed

What, if anything, to you plan to do differently at your school to improve the gifted studies program? Get more input from parents & Community