## Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

Understanding the Student Profile and its
Use for Educational
Planning

Fall Semester 2015

## Educational Planning

- The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) is administered to all third grade students in WCPSS.
- The CogAT benchmark testing is used for educational planning.
- Individual student data is accessed by the Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Program and other WCPSS educational programs.


## CogAT Scores

Please refer to the sample CogAT Report included with the meeting hand-outs.

The CogAT Batteries are:

- Verbal - measure of verbal reasoning skills
- Quantitative- measure of math reasoning skills
- Nonverbal - measure of visual-spatial reasoning


## CogAT Composite Scores

- The Quantitative-Nonverbal Partial Composite score (QN Partial Composite) indicates cognitive reasoning resources for nonverbal learning.
- The Composite score indicates the overall strength of the student's cognitive resources for learning.



## National Age Scores

- Stanine - a type of normalized standard score scale ranging from 1 to 9 with 5 being the mean (average).
- Percentile - indicates the percent of students in the representative age group who obtained lower raw scores on the test.


## Graphs and Profiles

- A bar graph of the student's scores appears on the score report as a visual representation of the student's percentile score.
- Your student's individual profile code is listed after the subtitle "Ability Profile".
- Additional information regarding your child's profile can be found at: www.cogat.com by keying in the profile code of your student.


## Profile Codes

- The profile code contains a number and a letter, for example, 8E (V-N+) or 7B (V+).
- The number represents the median stanine and the letter indicates the type of score pattern.
- The letter score patterns are: A, B, C or E.


## Percentile and Stanine Descriptions

| Description | Percentile | Stanine |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Very High | $96-99$ | 9 |
| Above Average | $89-95$ | 8 |
| Above Average | $77-88$ | 7 |
| Average | $60-76$ | 6 |
| Average | $41-59$ | 5 |
| Average | $24-40$ | 4 |
| Below Average | $12-23$ | 3 |
| Below Average | $5-11$ | 2 |
| Very Low | $1-4$ | 1 |

## Student Profiles

- A Profile - all subtest scores are roughly the sAme
- B Profile - one subtest score is either aBove or Below the other two subtest scores
- C Profile - two subtest scores Contrast indicating a relative strength and a relative weakness
- E Profile - the difference between the high and low subtest scores is Extreme


## Raw Scores

- Number of Items = the number of questions on the subtests.
- Number Att. (attempted) = the number of questions the student answered.
- Number Correct = the total number of items the student answered correctly.


## National Grade Scores

- The grade scores compare the student to other students at the same grade level nationally.
- Grade scores are NOT used for identification since students in a given grade may vary greatly in terms of their age.


## The Next Step........

- Students with an age-based Composite or subtest battery score at or above the 85 th percentile ( $85 \%$ ) are eligible to take the lowa Assessments (lowa).
- Parents will receive a permission form that must be signed and returned to the school before the student can take the lowa.


## AIG Identification

- The CogAT and lowa scores are reviewed.
- Additional factors (Informal Indicators) are considered in determining AIG eligibility. These factors include student interest, motivation, classroom performance, third grade Explorers' work samples, parent and teacher checklists, etc.
- The overall profile of the student is considered in the overall identification process.


## Additional Steps in the AG Identification Process

- School Based Committee for Gifted Education (SBCGE) meets to nominate and refer students.
- Parents sign and return the Consent For Evaluation.
- Formal and Informal data are compiled.
- SBCGE makes final recommendations for reading and/or math identification and level of service.


## AIG Identification Process continued....

- SBCGE recommendations from schools are reviewed in May by the AIG Program Central Services Committee.
- Parents are informed of the final AIG recommendations by the end of the $2^{\text {nd }}$ semester.
- AIG service begins at the beginning of the $4^{\text {th }}$ grade year after parents sign and return the Initial Consent for Service.


## AIG Program and Testing Information

- Test Coordinator:
- School Counselor:
- $3^{\text {rd }}$ Grade Classroom Teachers: $\qquad$
- AIG Resource Teacher: $\qquad$
- AIG Parent Guide
- AIG Program Website:
http://www.wcpss.net/curriculum-instruction/ag/
- AIG Program Office: Crossroads 1

5625 Dillard Drive, Cary, 431-7657

