

**From:** Klimis Jenny - Gifted Supvsr  
**To:** Bing Angelean; Apuzzo Kerry; Aemisegger Sherry; Griffin Tabitha; Wilson Antonette  
**Cc:** Downes Sandra; Moore Pam  
**Subject:** ESOL/Gifted Project - NNAT2 1st grade gifted screening  
**Date:** Monday, April 20, 2015 1:23:00 PM  
**Attachments:** image001.png  
Proposal to Principals - April 2015.doc  
NNAT2flyer FNL.pdf  
Parent letter -NNAT 2 SAMPLE PRE SCREENING 3.16.doc  
NNAT Result letter to parents SAMPLE-.doc  
NNAT Result letter to parents SAMPLE-SPANISH.doc  
Parent letter -NNAT 2 SAMPLE PRE SCREENING SPANISH.doc

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Dear Principal,

A goal of the gifted department is to increase the number of students from underrepresented populations identified as gifted. For the past few years, the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test - Second Edition (NNAT2) has been used in screening students for gifted in Title 1 schools for this purpose. This year, Natasa Karac and I want to put the focus on schools with a high population of ESOL students. We are proposing that all general education first graders in your school be screened with the NNAT 2 giving them all equal access to gifted services and not depending on teacher or parent requests for screening.

Please review the attached NNAT 2 overview, plan and timeline. You will also find the parent pre/post-screening letters in English and Spanish.

If you are willing to participate in this NNAT2 project for your students, please respond by April 24 and provide me with an accurate count of first graders.

Thank you for your cooperation in providing this opportunity to your students.

Jenny

Natasa

Jenny Klimis  
Gifted Program Specialist

Natasa Karac  
ESOL Specialist



**Close the Gap by Raising the Bar  
Joint Gifted & ESOL Project  
Spring 2015**

**Goal**

- To increase the number of students from underrepresented populations identified as gifted.

**Rationale**

- The percentage of ESOL and other economically/ethnically diverse student groups screened and identified as gifted does not reflect the population of the Pinellas County student body. Typically, students are screened for gifted at the request of their teachers or parents. Referring bright students from underrepresented populations is often difficult for teachers because they often do not recognize their non-academic strengths such as problem solving ability. Parents of these students are also often unaware of gifted characteristics and services available to them. As a result, bright students from underrepresented populations often do not reach their potential because no one recognized their ability.

**Proposal**

- To use the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test – Second Edition (NNAT 2) to screen all general education first grade students for gifted in the schools with the highest percentage of ESOL students. The selected schools are: Belleair ES, Dunedin ES, Eisenhower ES, McMullen-Booth ES, and Skycrest ES.

**Overview of the NNAT2**

- Nonverbal method of testing based on progressive matrices that require no verbal or written answers.
- The test is brief and consists of 48 items that require reasoning and problem-solving skills rather than reading, word knowledge, or math ability.
- Group administration takes approximately 45 minutes, 30 for the actual testing.

**Plan**

- First grade teachers will administer the Naglieri to all general education first graders. For best results, make the grade level screening a team effort including the gifted teacher.  
Review the NNAT 2 and goals for grade level screening in a PLC  
Classroom teacher administers the NNAT2 in the classroom setting.  
Teachers score NNAT2 during a PLC
- Students who score at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher will be considered for further evaluation.

**Timeline**

- **April 20-30**  
Meet with first grade team & gifted teacher about the project  
NNAT2 protocols / test directions delivered to schools via pony  
Pre-screening letter sent to parents
- **May 1 – 20**  
NNAT2 administration and scoring  
Post screening letter sent to parents  
Students scoring at or above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile are referred for further evaluation