

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Students will have 2 scheduled periods of gifted and talented classes per week.

- The results of the following three indicators will be evaluated. Students must meet two out of the 3 indicators to enter the 8<sup>th</sup> grade program.
  - Student achieved a combined score on the 7<sup>th</sup> grade NJ ASK that met or exceeded the total established by taking the score at the top 10% mark of all Union's seventh grade students in math and combining it with the top 10% mark of all Union's seventh grade students in language.
  - Teacher recommendation
    - For previous students already in the program: Satisfactory end-of-the-year evaluation with the minimum score attained.
    - For students who were not previously in the program: Acceptance into at least two honors classes as part of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade schedule. If honors math has not been recommended, then at least the level of pre-algebra must be obtained.
  - Writing Sample will be taken, during school time, whereby the grade earned on the twenty-four point rubric will meet or exceed twenty points.
- Students who are new to the district have a chance to be entered into the program.
  - After the 1<sup>st</sup> marking period has concluded the regular classroom teacher can nominate any new students for evaluation into the gifted program.
  - The above students will be evaluated using the: Revised Renzulli/Hartman Teacher Checklist of Behavioral Characteristics of Gifted, and will be tested using the GATES (Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scale).