

G. C. Burkhead Elementary School

SBDM Council Policy

Policy Number 15.04

Whiz Kid and Academic Team Selection Process Policy

The G. C. Burkhead SBDM Council adopts the following Whiz Kid and Academic Team Selection Process:

1. The selection process for the academic team is open to any student who is interested in trying out for the team.
2. Letters are sent home to parents announcing the tryouts and asking for parental permission for their child to be tested. Any student without a permission note will not be allowed to be tested. Signed permission is also required for students to participate as team members.
3. Each year we use the general knowledge test from the previous year's district or regional Governor's Cup competition. It contains questions over math, language arts, science, social studies, and humanities.
4. Each test is scored and the students are ranked by their scores. CATS test scores are checked to compare to performance on the test.
5. Teachers are then contacted about student grades and participation in class. If a student appears on a teacher's list that did not take the test, that student is approached and asked whether they would be interested in being on the Academic Team and if so they are given a test. Special area teachers, STEP teachers and coaches are conferred with to obtain as much information as possible for deciding team members.
6. Using teacher recommendations and scores from the test, preliminary selections are made.
7. The second phase then begins. Students are given information to study. Practice is set up after school. The coaches work with the students asking questions over the information given to the students.
8. The students who study and can answer questions readily are chosen for the team.
9. Students who are skilled writers are selected for the Future Problem Solving Team and English Composition.
10. Students who have a strong knowledge base in one given area, but do not respond quickly on the buzzers, are selected for the written assessment tests.
11. Those students who have quick, accurate responses are selected for the quick recall team.
12. Practices are held after school to prepare the students for the competition. Students must maintain all A's and B's, exhibit excellent behavior, and be present for 80% of the practices to remain on the team.

Date Adopted: February 5, 1996