



## *Frequently Asked Questions About* **MSDE Primary Talent Development (PTD)**

### *What is PTD?*

*PTD is based on the principle that all primary students (K-2) require opportunities to develop talents and abilities to their fullest extent.* PTD is a collection of K-2 science-based curriculum modules which contain instructional guidelines and strategies for open-ended, problem solving learning experiences in order to challenge all students. In doing so, thinking behaviors are nurtured and encouraged through hands-on experiences, discovery activities, and exploration. Teachers observe and document targeted thinking behaviors to guide instructional decisions and develop students' strengths, interests, and abilities.

### *What are the PTD targeted thinking behaviors?*

#### **Communicative, Perceptive, Inquisitive, Persistence, Creative, Resourceful, and Leadership**

These thinking behaviors prepare today's primary students to live and work in a conceptual age. They are transferable to academic situations and may be indicative of potential or advanced capabilities.

### *When are the MSDE PTD behaviors targeted?*

#### **Kindergarten:**

- **All About Attributes:** (*fall*) communicative and perceptive
- **A Sense of Wonder:** (*spring*) persistence and inquisitive

#### **Grade One:**

- **Design Dilemma:** (*fall*) creative and resourceful
- **Bubbleology:** (*spring*) perceptive and persistence

#### **Grade Two:**

- **Tremendous Trees:** (*fall*) creative and inquisitive
- **Preservation Problem Solvers:** (*spring*) leadership and resourceful

### *What are the goals of PTD?*

The goals of PTD are to provide opportunities for all students to develop and demonstrate thinking behaviors. The teacher will compile a portfolio that documents thinking behaviors across grades K-2. PTD uses three Essential Strategies: analyzing attributes, questioning, and creative problem solving. These strategies scaffold across the early learning years and are transferrable to new learning situations.

### *Who will be implementing the PTD program?*

The classroom teacher will be implementing the PTD program. A PTD Implementation Resource Teacher will be supporting schools with on-going differentiated professional development which may include: modeling lessons, record keeping, data collection, and analysis.

### *What is the relationship between PTD and Advanced Learner Programs?*

During the PTD experiences, students may demonstrate potential or advanced capabilities. Classroom teachers utilize the PTD documentation to guide differentiated instruction to further develop potential. This initiative impacts lifelong learning and increase the number of students participating in advanced studies and programs.