**Recognizing Traits of Exceptionality in**

**Students from Non-Dominant Cultures**

**Which students …**

* show the most growth over time based on pre-post data? (by subject area and even individual units within subject areas)
* are able to attain information quickly once explained even if they did not know the content ahead of time?
* have insightful ideas but may not be able to communicate those ideas concisely or using mainstream vocabulary?
* are able to convince others to conform to an idea or activity (even if that activity is not one that is appropriate for school)?
* show problem solving or reasoning skills and responsibility through home or community connections more than school and at earlier ages than their same-aged peers – even if they may not show responsibility in turning in their homework? (i.e., navigating bus schedules, taking care of younger siblings at earlier ages than typical, planning meals, etc.)
* participate in and are recognized for or have leadership roles in events/organizations outside of school (i.e., 4-H, dance clubs, church groups, community clubs such as theater, traveling teams)?
* are able to design new methods or ideas for completing a task or creating something new using minimal materials or combining what is available in unique ways?

Tamra Stambaugh, PhD. 2019. Vanderbilt University

**Characteristics of High Cognitive Functioning**

* Reasons well
* Learns rapidly
* Extensive vocabulary
* Excellent memory
* Long attention span
* Strong curiosity
* Wide range of interests
* Early or avid reader
* Keen observer
* Vivid imagination
* Highly creative
* Strong number sense