

**FORT BEND ISD
GT PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PRESENTS**

FOR PARENTS, BY PARENTS



Schedule Of Events

April 12 - 7:00 - 8:00 pm - FBISD GT Presentation

April 13 - 12:00 - 12:45 pm - Parent-Led Sessions

7:00 - 7:45 pm - Parent-Led Sessions

April 15 - 12:00 - 12:45 pm - Parent-Led Sessions

7:00 - 7:45 pm - Parent-Led Sessions

April 17 - 9:00 - 9:55 am - GT Student Panel

10:00 - 11:00 am - Keynote: David Sebek

Many sessions! One Zoom Link!!

Zoom Link: <http://bit.ly/gtparentsymposium21>

Meeting ID: 988 2857 8713 Passcode: 817020

STUDENT EVENT: FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH



A message

FROM THE GT PAC PARENT SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

Hello FBISD GT Parents,

Welcome to the GT Parent Symposium! This event is an opportunity for GT parents to share their experiences and perspective in raising GT children. Our hope is that the GT Parent Symposium will help each of us learn more about our GT child(ren) and connect with other GT parents in FBISD. May your time with us be filled with lots of learning and connecting!

Please Note: For your convenience, we have created one Zoom link to access all sessions and seminars. There are a variety of seminars on Tuesday and Thursday and we hope you will find many that interest you! You will enter a breakout room for the specific seminar once you enter the general Zoom call.

(The student event has a different zoom location given to those who register.)

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What is the GT PAC?

The FBISD GT Parents Advisory Committee (PAC) is a voluntary group of parents. Members of the GT PAC are liaisons between the District GT office and their campus. The GT PAC identifies issues of importance to the GT community, and communicates those issues to the District GT office. The GT PAC is committed to improving GT services and communication to ensure that all of our GT learners have the best educational experience possible.

Each school in the district is entitled to send volunteers to serve on the PAC. These volunteers are selected from the pool of parents of GT identified children on each individual campus.

The GT PAC meets monthly.

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE GT PAC
EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ALL PAC
MEMBERS FOR YOUR SERVICE AND
CONTRIBUTION THIS SCHOOL YEAR.**

2020-2021 GT PAC Executive Board

President: Kim Hibsch

President-Elect: Wendy Pennings

Parliamentarian: Deepshikha Singh

Secretary: Nadine Skinner

If you are interested in representing your child's campus on the GT PAC next year, please be on the lookout for an email from the GT Department in August.



Monday, April 12, 2021

7:00 pm - 7:45 pm

Online Welcome

and

The State of GT In FBISD

Dr. Laurie Westphal,

Director of Gifted and Talented

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Tuesday, April 13, 2021

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm

The Myths and Truths About The GT Academy with Cathy Nguyen, and Nehal Dave

During this session, we will list a few myths and truths in regards to projects, homework, admissions, clubs, and work/life balance involving FBIISD's middle school GT Academy. We will then give an opportunity to ask questions.

Holistic Admissions and the College Search with Jigisha Doshi

What does holistic mean in college admissions? Most people assume college admissions are just based on grades and SAT scores. These two numbers are only among many factors considered in admissions. In this session, we will talk about what holistic admissions mean and how can students start their college search.

Parenting Multiple GT Students in the Same Home with Wendy Pennings *

All GT students are different, and navigating the uniqueness of each individual GT student in your home can be challenging. Come join the conversation.

GT Teenage Girls and Hormones with Melissa Jackson

GT kids are difficult enough to navigate but add teenage years and hormones to the mix and you have a perfect storm. I am not a pro on how to deal with this but have learned a few tricks from being able to communicate with my child. I also have ideas to share with parents so that everyone comes out good on the other side of puberty.

Gifted and Gay: When GT Meets LGBT with Pippa Day

What happens when your gifted child is also LGBT? Does their giftedness affect how they see their sexuality? Do their intensities influence their coming-out process? Discuss these questions and more as a fellow parent (who is also a school counselor) talks frankly about her journey with her GT/LGBT child.

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Tuesday, April 13, 2021

7:00 - 7:45 pm

Parenting a Twice-Exceptional Learner with Kristin Kassaw*

Research suggests approximately 6% of gifted children also have a learning disability and are referred to as "twice -exceptional". Twice-exceptional learners have unique needs academically, socially, and emotionally. This discussion focuses on the identification and support of 2E children.

Parenting GT Students with Compassion through Modeling with Bindu Chacko

Compassion is a critical character quality for everyone in our society. The best way to instill this in our children is through modeling it in our own lives and exposing young people to different situations. Let us explore how to do this together.

Personalities Strength Finders with Amit Kumar

There is nothing wrong with being aware of our weaknesses and managing them, but our greatest opportunity for success lies in building on our natural talents and strengths.

Getting Ready for Middle School with Katie Austin

This session is a middle school student panel that can answer questions about what middle school has been like for them. They will be prepared to answer questions about the social and academic aspects of school. This session may help parents realize some of the concerns and questions their own kids may have as they graduate from elementary school.

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Thursday, April 15, 2021

12:00 - 12:45 pm

Parenting Multiple GT Students in the Same Home with Wendy Pennings *

All GT students are different, and navigating the uniqueness of each individual GT student in your home can be challenging. Come join the conversation.

How to Help Your Elementary Student Advocate for Themselves with Kim Hibsich *

In this session, I want to help parents realize that even elementary kids can advocate for themselves with teachers. Helping a kid learn the best way to communicate and express what they need will serve them both immediately and long term.

How Can I Influence My GT Teen with Angie Hanan and Rachel Jerng

In this session, GT parents Rachel Jerng and Angie Hanan will provide information regarding the dimensions of GT in adolescence and strategies to support and influence your teen.

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Organization Tips for the Secondary Student with Bindu Chacko

James Baker, President George H.W. Bush's former Chief of Staff, once said "Proper Preparation Prevents Poor Performance". Come learn multiple organizational skills that could help your secondary student at home and in school.

Virtualization of the World with Amit Kumar and Tosin Fasidi

Come learn how virtualization impacts our day to day life and the lives of our students.

Mindfulness & Neuroscience for Mental Wellness with Anita Thomas and Katie Austin

Can we train our brains to improve our mental and physical health? The concept of changing behavior through mindfulness is not a new one. Research says that mindfulness techniques to calm the mind and body can help reduce the negative effects of stress and increase our students' ability to stay focused and avoid behavior problems. This seminar will explore a few practical strategies and tips to help incorporate mindfulness into our students' daily routines. It will also connect the practical strategies to understand how the brain works and adapts during these activities for sustained change.

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Although this event is not part of the GT Parent Symposium, we wanted to share this opportunity for GT middle and high school students to connect with other GT students.

FORT BEND ISD

GT STUDENT TALKS

**FOR SECONDARY GT STUDENTS
JOIN THE CONVERSATION**

**Friday, April 16, 2021
7:00 pm**

**Registration Link:
<https://tinyurl.com/GTTalksReg>**

JOIN FELLOW SECONDARY GT STUDENTS TO COLLABORATE AND SHARE IDEAS AND SIMILAR INTERESTS. TOPICS WILL BE DETERMINED BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS.

Register using the link above.

GT STUDENT PANEL

April 17th - 9:00 - 9:55 am

Moderator: Angie Hanan



Angie Hanan
Parent
PACE Immediate Past President
Current Fort Bend ISD Board Member



Brandon H.
12th Grade
Travis HS



Sophia P.
12th Grade
Kempner HS



Surya B.
11th Grade
Clements HS



Jonathan U.
8th Grade
Quail Valley MS



Nicholas U.
7th Grade
Quail Valley MS



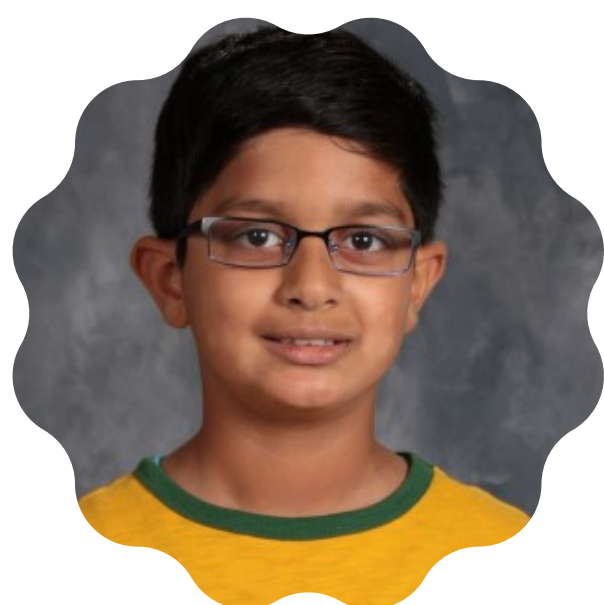
Rylee P.
7th Grade
Missouri City MS



Eric L.
5th Grade
Sullivan ES



Dilcia D.
4th Grade
Mission West ES



Rohan B.
5th Grade
Drabek ES



Brooke T.
4th Grade
Lakeview ES



Lana N.
7th Grade
Quail Valley MS

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DAVID SEBEK, KEYNOTE SPEAKER

April 17th - 10:00 - 11:00 am



David Sebek was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada but spent his early childhood traversing the Northern and Southern Hemispheres before putting down roots in Houston, Texas. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University. For almost twenty five years David has been a teacher of diverse student populations. His passion is working with students in gifted education. In 2011 he was recognized as the Texas State Teacher of the Year for the Gifted by the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented. He continues to teach middle school English Language Arts because "when you find your bliss, why would you do anything else." David has spoken to numerous school districts about gifted education. Away from school you can find him building and designing puzzles for escape rooms, and dabbling in building furniture for his wife and three children.

SESSION INFORMATION

Developing a Growth Mindset to Battle Perfectionism

In this session participants will look at the different types of perfectionism, the causes of perfectionism and, most importantly, understand what tools can be used to transform crippling perfectionism into a healthy sense of showing pride in one's work.

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**THANK YOU
GT SYMPOSIUM
SUBCOMMITTEE
MEMBERS!**

Wendy Pennings, Chair

Anu Asthana

John Aven

Jessica Brown

Steven Chang

Camesha Dandie

Kamilah Holmes

Cathy Hunter

Sonia Morgan-Linnell

Olu Temowo

Monica Willis

***Thank you also to the
FBISD GT Department
for your support.***