Gifted and Talented Parent Meeting
April 27, 2017
Meeting Overview

• Introductions
• Define Gifted & Talented
• FBISD Gifted & Talented Program Service Model
• Gifted & Talented Programming Moving Forward
• Opportunities for Feedback
Texas Definition of Gifted and Talented Students

A child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

1. Exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area;
2. Possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or
3. excels in a specific academic field.
Reflect and Share

Why are Gifted and Talented services important for your child?
FBISD Gifted and Talented Program
Mission Statement

The mission of the Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented Education Program is to provide learning opportunities that challenge and develop the abilities of identified gifted students through critical, creative and self-directed learning, as well as, meet their social and emotional needs.
FBISD Gifted and Talented Program
Core Beliefs

• Gifted children and youth exist within all ethnic and socioeconomic groups.
• Gifted and Talented students’ needs are best met through the collaboration of students, educators, parents, and community members.
• Gifted and Talented students require differentiated curriculum in an appropriate program to meet their unique needs and to reach their potential.
• Schools promote intellectual growth by providing challenging and demanding learning experiences for GT students that lead to the development of advanced-level products.
Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented

Areas Served

- Social Studies
- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science

Students are currently identified and served in the 4 core areas.
FBISD Gifted and Talented Teacher Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial or Foundation Training</th>
<th>30 hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior to teacher GT students, teachers must complete a 30-hour GT Foundation Training program.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Knowledge Area/Teacher Competency</th>
<th>Minimum Number of Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creativity &amp; Instructional Strategies for Gifted Learners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiated Curriculum for Gifted Learners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identification &amp; Assessment for Gifted Learners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature &amp; Needs of Gifted Learners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social &amp; Emotional Needs of Gifted Learners</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Update</th>
<th>6 hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Each additional year, teachers must receive 6 hours of GT training in any of the core knowledge areas.</td>
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Additionally, teachers are offered opportunities to apply for scholarships to attend local and state gifted conferences and to prepare for the GT supplement test offered through TEA.
# Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented Program Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>High</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>During the School Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>During the School Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>During the School Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster Grouping</td>
<td>Pre-AP Classes</td>
<td>Pre-AP &amp; AP Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiated Instruction to increase depth &amp; complexity of grade level TEKS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Differentiated Instruction to provide acceleration – curriculum compacting, enrichment &amp; extension</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) – Required</td>
<td>Project Based Learning opportunities like TPSP</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Enrichment Beyond the School Day - a few examples include:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>School Sponsors</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Academic Decathlon</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini Mathletes</td>
<td>Math Counts</td>
<td>Academic Decathlon</td>
<td>Uil Academics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robotics &amp; Coding</td>
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**Acceleration Options**

| Credit By Exam | High School courses are available in Math and Foreign Language | Acceleration through Dual Credit, AP exams, concurrent enrollment, CLEP |

**Specialized Services**

| GT Academy | GT Mentorship |
Cluster Grouping

Gifted and Talented students are ensured opportunities to work together as a group, work with other students, and work independently during the school day as well as the entire school year.

GT students are placed together for instruction in the appropriate content area(s) for which they have been identified in cluster grouping.

Teachers are trained to adapt curriculum and instruction for their gifted learners with strategies such as:

- Curricular compacting
- Lesson Differentiation with Depth & Complexity; and
- the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP).
Pre-AP and Advanced Placement Courses

GT students in grades 6 - 12 are required to enroll in the pre-AP or AP course offered in the academic fields for which they are identified.

The AP Program is a nationally recognized set of rigorous classes, where students study advanced material, more in-depth and at an accelerated pace.

Pre-AP/AP teachers are trained to provide differentiation to meet the needs of GT students.
Middle School Gifted and Talented Academy

- Housed at Quail Valley MS for GT students in grades 6-8
- Students are admitted as incoming 6th graders through a random lottery system
- Instruction is designed to enhance self-awareness, self-efficacy, problem solving and the learning of critical and creative thinking skills that empower students

*Students not attending the GT Academy receive GT services at their zoned campus.*
Gifted and Talented Mentorship

An innovative course that serves exceptionally gifted and motivated students through an evening course and placement with a mentor in a particular field of research.

• Students explore complex thought, expand critical thinking, consider novel problem solving strategies and engage in original research and project development while working alongside a professional mentor.

• Students may apply for this program in their 10th or 11th grade year for participation the following year.
Beyond the School Day

In addition to services provided to gifted and talented learners during the school day, Fort Bend ISD campuses provide additional options to students outside the school day. Some of these options include, but are not limited to:

• Academic Decathlon
• UIL Academics
• Destination ImagiNation
• DUKE Tip Talent Search
• Science & History Fair
What acceleration options exist in Fort Bend ISD?

- Curriculum Compacting
- Partial Acceleration, by Content
- Self-Paced Instruction
- Credit by Exam
- Advanced Placement
- Dual Credit
# GT Service Options Around our State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Option</th>
<th>FBISD</th>
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<th>FBISD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Placement</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>GT Mentorship</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Credit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>Compacting</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent Enrollment</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>International Baccalaureate</td>
<td>Previously offered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiation in General Ed</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>IB Primary Years</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pull-out services</td>
<td></td>
<td>IB Middle Year</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Acceleration</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>Magnet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-AP</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>Push In</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit by Exam</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>Genius Hour</td>
<td>A few pilots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Grouping</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Schools</td>
<td>✔</td>
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Improving GT Programming

GT Task Force
Purpose
To examine feedback from parents and campuses as well as current research and best practices for serving gifted and talented students in order to make recommendations for changes to the FBISD GT service model.

Representatives from all stakeholders will be included: students, teachers, counselors, administrators, and parents. Representation will be balanced to include members representing elementary, middle and high school and also balancing representation from schools with varying percentages of GT identification.
Improving GT Programming

Parent Advisory

Purpose
Facilitate increased awareness and communication with families regarding gifted and talented services as well as create an ongoing mechanism for feedback.

- Submit your interest to represent your campus
- One parent per school
- One or two other parents may be identified as alternates
Shaping Our Essential Reflection

**Triangle**
List three “points” (things) you learned about GT programming from this meeting.

**Circle**
What is something “rolling” around in your mind about our work to improve GT programming?

**Square**
What would you like us to know about what “squares” with your beliefs regarding your GT student?
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GT Parent Survey

http://tinyurl.com/FBISDGT

GT Parent Advisory & GT Task Force

http://tinyurl.com/FBISDGTVolunteer