

FBISD Gifted and Talented Guidance during COVID-19



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Gifted and Talented Education

In *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students*, the Texas Education Agency (2019) stated that

Students who participate in services designed for G/T students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for G/T students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services (p. 1).

The Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented Department has developed procedures and protocols to implement programming for the 2020-21 school year. This programming will address the standards found in *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students* while providing services within the constraints of COVID-19 and its impact on traditional instruction and programming models.

Monitoring and Fidelity of Services

The Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented Department is committed to ensuring consistent gifted programming services to meet the unique educational, social and emotional needs of gifted learners. FBISD Gifted and Talented Programming in 2020-21 includes:

- GT-trained teachers differentiating curriculum to meet the unique needs of gifted/talented students;
- GT-trained teachers serving GT students completing their 30-hour GT foundation courses or GT six-hour update professional development requirement;
- GT students participating in the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) for online and face-to-face students at all grade levels;
- GT Administrators providing schedule modifications (where needed) ensuring that gifted/talented students are taught by GT-trained teachers;
- GT Administrators conducting instructional observations for both online and face-to-face classrooms where GT students are served;
- GT Department integrating curricular alternatives in grades 1 – 5 curriculum for seamless inclusion in lesson planning; and
- GT Department implementation an identification process for gifted and talented services that provides opportunities for participation by both online and virtual students with adherence to social distancing guidelines.

Student Assessment for GT Services

Student Identification

The Texas Education Agency (2019) stated that districts must implement “Gifted/talented identification procedures and progress monitoring [that] allow students to demonstrate and develop their diverse talents and abilities” (p. 10). FBISD Gifted and Talented and the FBISD Testing Department have worked to implement a comprehensive identification process consisting of three phases: referral, assessment, and identification. This process serves to determine if a student needs Gifted and Talented services in Fort Bend ISD.

Referral

Fort Bend ISD (2018) EHBB Local Policy states “administrators, parents, teachers, and school counselors may nominate any District-enrolled student who is not receiving gifted and talented services in kindergarten–grade 12 for the gifted and talented program. Students may also nominate themselves” (p. 1). The 2020-21 referral process has not been impacted by COVID-19.

- The referral window was open from the first day of school until September 30, 2020.
- Parents could refer their child during this window using the online GT Application.
- Referral information is posted on the Fort Bend ISD GT Webpage and shared on campus GT webpages.
- A reminder about the referral window was sent to all Fort Bend ISD parents through a communications blast the week before the referral window closed.

Assessment

Fort Bend ISD (2018) EHBB Local Policy states “the criteria set forth in administrative procedures shall be aligned to the state definition of gifted and talented and shall ensure the equitable assessment of students of all populations” (p. 2). Although Fort Bend ISD will continue to use the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) in 2020-21 to assess students needs for gifted and talented services, the Dual Instruction Model has impacted the assessment process.

- The fall testing window is a four-week window rather than a two-week, which has been the procedure in the past. The additional time will allow for social distancing during testing and flexibility with scheduling of virtual learners for testing.
- The fall testing window will occur from October 26 to November 20, 2020.
- Campuses will determine dates and locations of testing and share this information with parents.
- All students must attend a face-to-face testing session during school hours, specific to their campus-testing calendar. Remote/Virtual test administration will not be available.
- If a parent determines that it is unsafe for their child to attend a face-to-face testing during the fall, their face-to-face assessment will be pushed into the spring.

- The spring testing window is a one-week window, which is tentatively scheduled for February, 2021.
- Testing will be conducted following social distancing guidelines.
- Test administrator adhere to safety procedures (wellness screening survey, social distancing, sanitizing, and masks) during the administration of the assessments.
- Campuses will provide the Home Rating Scale (Parent Inventory) to parents during the testing window(s).

Identification

Fort Bend ISD (2018) EHBB Local Policy states “the criteria set forth in administrative procedures shall be aligned to the state definition of gifted and talented and shall ensure the equitable assessment of students of all populations” (p. 2). The identification process has not been impacted by COVID-19.

- Data from cognitive ability testing, parent inventories, and teacher inventories will be entered into GT student Profiles.
- Based on these data, a campus selection committee will be established on each campus to review GT student profiles and determine students’ needs for gifted services.
- A notification of the placement decision and a copy of each student’s scores will be mailed to parents or guardians on February 26, 2021.

Universal Screener

Fort Bend ISD (2018) EHBB Local Policy states that “the superintendent shall establish processes and guidelines designed to ensure that students from all populations in the District have access to assessment and, if identified, to services provided for the gifted and talented program” (p. 1). To that end, cognitive abilities testing is provided for **all Fort Bend ISD second graders** to support differentiation and to identify students who may need gifted and talented services.

- The universal testing window is a four-week window, which coincides with the GT referral window and occurs from October 26 to November 20, 2020.
- All students participating in the universal screener must attend a face-to-face testing session during school hours, according to their specific campus-testing calendar. Remote/Virtual test administration is not available.
- Campuses will determine dates and locations of universal screening testing and share this information with parents.
- Testing will be conducted following social distancing guidelines.
- Test administrator adhere to safety procedures (wellness screening survey, social distancing, sanitizing, and masks) during the administration of the assessments.
- A copy of each child’s score report will be provided to parents in February 2021.

Vistas Talent Pool

Cognitive abilities testing is provided for **all kindergarteners** on campuses that receive Title I funding to support differentiation, select students for the Vistas Talent Pool, and to identify students who may need gifted and talented services. Due to the Covid-19/Coronavirus school closure in Spring 2020, all first graders on campuses that receive Title I funding will also be provided cognitive abilities testing during the Fall 2020 testing window. The Vistas Talent Pool testing window is a four-week window, which coincides with the GT referral window and occurs from October 26 to November 20, 2020.

- All students participating in the VISTAS screener must attend a face-to-face testing session during school hours, according to their specific campus-testing calendar. Remote/Virtual test administration is not available.
- Campuses will determine dates and locations of VISTAS testing and share this information with parents.
- Testing will be conducted following social distancing guidelines.
- Test administrators adhere to safety procedures (wellness screening survey, social distancing, sanitizing, and masks) during the administration of the assessments.
- A copy of each child's score report will be provided to parents in February 2021.

The selection criteria for the Vistas Talent Pool program will remain the same for 2020-21. These criteria include:

- An ability score at or above the 71st percentile in at least one area (non-verbal, verbal, quantitative) of the CogAT
- A score at or above the 80th percentile on the FORT BEND ISD Gifted Behavior Observation Questionnaire
- A record of teacher observations of student behavior

Face-to-Face and Virtual Instruction Service Options

Introduction

Students served with gifted and talented services in both face-to-face and virtual learning models will receive synchronous and asynchronous instruction with consideration given to classroom grouping. The Gifted and Talented Handbook (Fort Bend ISD, 2019) states "campuses shall select classroom placement strategies that best facilitate the delivery and support of the learning opportunities for gifted and talented students described within their campus structures" (p. 16). Students identified as gifted and talented must be placed in a grade-level face-to-face or virtual classroom with other students identified for gifted and talented services.

Classroom Placement Strategies

When possible, students identified as gifted and talented must be placed in a grade-level classroom with other students identified for gifted and talented services (Fort Bend ISD, 2019).

- When there are **more than six** identified gifted and talented students at a grade level, the students may be divided into multiple classrooms with a minimum of six students identified as gifted and talented placed in each cluster classroom with other students (p. 17).
- When there are **fewer than six** identified gifted and talented students at a grade level, the students must be placed together in one classroom as a cluster. Highly capable students with a history of high achievement shall be placed in the cluster classroom to increase the talent cluster to a minimum of six students. For example, if three students identified as gifted and talented are in a classroom, an additional three highly capable students should be added to that classroom to create a total of six high-ability students in the cluster (p. 17).
- When there is only one identified gifted and talented student in a grade level, opportunities shall be provided to enable that student to work with other identified students across grade levels during the school day. For example, if a campus has one first grade student, two third grade students, and one fifth grade student identified for gifted services, an opportunity must be provided for the first grade and fifth grade students to work with each other, or with the third grade students. This may be done through small break out group meetings where these students share their projects, work on problem-solving activities, or discuss Texas Performance Standards Projects that interest them (p. 17).

Elementary Services

Students identified for Gifted and Talented services in grades 1-5 will be served by a GT-trained teachers through clustered grouping as mentioned above. Teachers of gifted students will differentiate instruction to meet the various learning needs of gifted students. If a student demonstrates proficiency in a priority standard, GT teachers will provide curricular alternatives to replace instruction; providing an opportunity to go beyond the curriculum to deepen learning. In addition, Fort Bend ISD gifted students complete in-depth research on a topic or area of interest utilizing the Texas Performance Standard Projects (TPSP). The TPSP are aligned with the K- 12 curriculum. They are meaningful and encourage student choice about a topic that interests them.

Instructional Strategies

- Curriculum Compacting
- Increasing Depth and Complexity
- Incorporating Student Choice
- Flexible Grouping

Secondary Services

Students identified as Gifted and Talented in grades 6-12 are enrolled in pre-AP and/or AP courses that are taught by GT-trained teachers. These advanced courses are designed to promote acceleration, which increases the rigor for gifted learners. Gifted students take pre-AP and/or AP courses based on their identified area of giftedness. Gifted secondary students also

complete a Texas Performance Standards Project based on an area of interest. The TPSP allow students to complete independent research that deepens their knowledge both academically and personally.

Instructional Strategies

- Curriculum Compacting
- Acceleration
- Independent Study
- Flexible Grouping
- Incorporating Student Choice
- Increasing Depth and Complexity

VISTAS Talent Pool

The Vistas Talent Pool Program Initiative identifies and nurtures advanced academic potential in students from historically underrepresented populations (including English Language Learners (ELL), economically disadvantaged, African American, and Hispanic students) in Gifted and Talented programs. The aim of the Vistas Talent Pool is to provide an enriched educational environment for high ability students on campuses that receive Title I funds or designated as low-Social Economic Schools (low-SES) to enable them to reach their full intellectual potential and to increase representation of diverse students in advanced academic programs. Students in the VISTAS Talent Pool:

- are cluster-grouped for reading and math;
- receive differentiated services that are matched to their needs, interests, and abilities;
- receive instruction from a GT-trained classroom teacher who will enrich the curriculum to build the verbal intelligence of students; and
- experience an enriched language environment to develop verbal and quantitative reasoning skills, logic, sequential memory, and vocabulary.

Curriculum and Instruction

Adapting or Modifying the Curriculum

GT-trained teachers adapt the curriculum and environment for their GT learners in different ways. The most common modifications include (1) the differentiation of lessons to increase depth and complexity; (2) the implementation of Innovation Hour at pilot campuses; and (3) the compacting of curriculum with the implementation of Curricular Alternatives (Grades K-5) and the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) (Grades 1-12).

Innovation Hour

Innovation Hour is a student-driven inquiry process that encourages students to learn and create based on their passions. As stated in accountability standard 4.4 of *The Texas State Plan*

for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students (Texas Education Agency, 2019) GT programming must facilitate “participation in the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP), or other experiences that result in the development of sophisticated products and/or performances that are targeted to an audience outside the classroom, is available through gifted/talented curricula” (p. 16). Innovation Hour supports students as they develop and create advanced products and performances related to their interests. GT-identified students on 10 pilot campuses in grades 2, 3, 6, and 9 will participate in Innovation Hour. Notes about the implementation of Innovation Hour in 2020-21 include:

- GT students must be allowed the opportunity to work with other GT students whenever possible.
- Innovation Hour will take place during the intervention/enrichment block for elementary students.
- Innovation Hour times will vary by campus based on administrative decision for middle and high school students.
- Grade-level facilitators of Innovation Hour at pilot campuses have received targeted training as part of their summer GT update; have met together and have dedicated bi-weekly office hours with district support; and have accessed the FBISD-designed Innovation Hour curriculum.
- Innovation Hour implementation will be monitored locally by campus GT Administrators. They have received training on monitoring process.
- A separate page (www.fortbendisd.com/innovationhour) on the Fort Bend ISD GT webpage has been created to share information about Innovation Hour with the community.
- Pilot campuses include Arizona Fleming Elementary, Blue Ridge Elementary, Cornerstone Elementary, Lexington Creek Elementary, Malala Elementary, Patterson Elementary, Walker Station Elementary, Garcia Middle School, Quail Valley Middle School, and Clements High School.

Curricular Alternatives

Standard 4.6 of *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students* (Texas Education Agency, 2019) stated to meet the curriculum and instruction accountability standard, “Flexible pacing is employed, allowing students to learn at the pace and level appropriate to their abilities and skills” (p. 16). Guidelines for the implementation of Curricular Alternatives include:

- Curricular alternatives are **instead of, not in addition to** Tier 1 instructional work.
- Curricular alternatives will be implemented when students have shown proficiency in an instructional unit or concept. Once a student has shown proficiency, curricular alternatives **will replace** Tier 1 curriculum/assignments.
- Curricular alternatives are designed and available for all core content Priority Standards in the grades 1 – 5 curriculum.

- Curricular alternatives facilitate student choice in digital tools and product development.
- When possible, GT students must be allowed the opportunity to work with other GT students who have been assigned the same Curricular Alternative.
- All elementary GT-trained teachers have received targeted training on curricular alternatives as part of their summer GT update and have access to bi-weekly office hours with district personnel to provide support.
- All elementary GT-trained teachers will receive additional training in February 2021 as part of teachers' final GT-Update hours.

Secondary GT Instruction

At the secondary level, Gifted and Talented services are provided through enrollment in Pre- or Advanced Placement courses. As stated by Fort Bend ISD (2020), "placing Gifted and Talented students in pre-AP and AP classes puts them in rigorous, college level courses designed to promote acceleration" (p. 13).

- The AP Program is a nationally recognized set of rigorous classes, where students study advanced and in-depth material at an accelerated pace.
- Secondary students identified for Gifted and Talented services "are required to enroll in the pre-AP or AP course(s) offered in the academic fields for which they are identified" (p. 13).
- All secondary GT-trained teachers have received targeted training on differentiating for GT students in the Pre/AP classroom as part of their summer GT update and have access to bi-weekly office hours with district personnel to provide support.
- All secondary GT-trained teachers will receive additional training in February 2021 as part of teachers' final GT Update hours.

Texas Performance Standards Project

Standard 4.3 of *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students* (Texas Education Agency, 2019) stated to meet the curriculum and instruction accountability standard, "a continuum of learning experiences is provided that leads to the development of advanced-level products and/or performances such as those provided through the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP)" (p. 16). Standard 4.4 stated "participation in the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP), or other experiences that result in the development of sophisticated products and/or performances that are targeted to an audience outside the classroom, is available through gifted/talented curricula." (p. 16). The Texas Performance Standard Project (TPSP) comprises a set of performance standards, curricula, and assessments for differentiating instruction and deepening academic learning. These aim to support teachers and students in creating professional quality works as described in the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students. GT Identified students in grades 1-12 participate in the TPSP, with optional participation among students in kindergarten. Guidelines for the implementation of TPSP include:

- TPSP is an expectation for all Fort Bend ISD GT students.
- TPSP can be offered as an option during the elementary intervention/enrichment block.
- Students are encouraged to work on TPSP projects as a replacement for Tier 1 instruction once students have shown proficiency. TPSP projects have been aligned with grade-level curriculum units to facilitate this replacement of Tier 1 instruction.
- Although the group size working with TPSP will vary, GT students must be allowed the opportunity to work with other GT students.
- Campus Champions of Gifted Services (COGS) will create a shared document for teachers to record TPSP progress. The COGS will share their document with the GT department and campus teachers will update the document throughout the process.
- TPSP progress will be monitored by campus GT Administrators. They have received training on monitoring process.
- A page on the Fort Bend ISD GT webpage (www.fortbendisd.com/TPSP) has been created to share information about TPSP with the FBISD community.
- All K-12 GT-trained teachers have received targeted training on TPSP as part of their summer GT update and have access to bi-weekly office hours with district personnel to provide support. Additional training will be provided in January as part of teachers' final GT-update hours.

Professional Development

Introduction

Professional learning is one of the six strands of *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students* (TEA, 2019). TEA shared that "All personnel involved in the planning, creation, delivery and administration of services to gifted/talented students possess the knowledge required to develop and provide differentiated programs and services" (p. 18). Professional development builds the capacity of teachers and administrators by providing support that is relevant to the diverse needs of gifted students. For the 2020-21 school year, the Gifted and Talented Department designed targeted professional development opportunities based on the grade levels and the GT-initiative needs of different campuses. All professional development sessions are available virtually to allow flexibility for teachers and administrators.

30-hour Requirement

In *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students*, the Texas Education Agency (2019) stated that in order to meet accountability on the professional learning standard 5.1,

A minimum of thirty (30) clock hours of professional learning that includes nature and needs of gifted/talented students, identification and assessment

of gifted/talented students, and curriculum and instruction for gifted/talented students is required for teachers who provide instruction and services that are a part of the district’s defined gifted/talented services. Teachers are required to have completed the thirty (30) hours of professional learning prior to their assignment to the district’s gifted/talented services (19 TAC §89.2(1)) (p. 18).

If a teacher does not complete the 30-hours before their assignment, standard 5.2 stated, “teachers without required training who are assigned to provide instruction and services that are part of the district’s defined gifted/talented services are required to complete the thirty (30) hour training within one semester (19 TAC §89.2(2))” (p. 18). FBISD experienced a change from one instructional model to two. As of October, some teachers who are not GT-Trained have been asked to provide GT services. The Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented Department has received permission from TEA to modify the completion dates of the 30-hour requirement. TEA has confirmed Fort Bend ISD will remain in compliance with these standards if New-to-GT teachers complete:

- (1) Nature and Needs of Gifted Learners and (2) Identification and Assessment of Gifted Learners before December 1, 2020 and
- (3) Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Learners, (4) Differentiating the Curriculum for Gifted Learners, and (5) Creativity and Instructional Strategies for Gifted Learners before March 5, 2021.

Six-Hour Update Requirement

After obtaining the initial 30 hours of GT foundation training, “teachers who provide instruction and services that are a part of the district’s defined gifted/talented services receive a minimum of six (6) hours annually of professional development in gifted/talented education that is related to state teacher gifted/talented education standards” (TEA, 2019, p. 19). Beginning in the summer of 2020, the FBISD GGT Department has designed the annual 6-hour update based on GT initiatives in Fort Bend ISD. Three of the six update hours were provided during the summer 2020 to prepare teachers for initiatives that would begin in August. The remaining three hours will be facilitated by campus COGS through three one-hour sessions based on the following schedule:

Update Hour	TOT Training	Topic/Foundation Area	Campus Training Window
4	10/26	Social and Emotional (1 hour)	11/09 – 11/12
5	11/30	TPSP (1 hour)	01/19 – 01/21
6	01/25	Curricular Alternatives / Differentiated Instruction (1 hour)	02/16 – 02/19

Nature and Needs with Service Options Requirement

In *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students*, the Texas Education Agency (2019) stated that in order to meet accountability on the professional learning standard

5.9 “teachers as well as administrators who have supervisory duties for service decisions are required to complete a minimum of six (6) hours of professional development that includes nature and needs of gifted/talented students and service options for gifted/talented students (19 TAC §89.2(4))” (p. 19). To address this requirement, administrators needing this training will attend a six-hour asynchronous session on Nature and Needs with Program Options hosted by the Houston Area GT COOP. The course will be available from October 1 to November 30, 2020.

Family and Community Involvement

Stakeholder Communication

Texas Education Agency (2019) stated that in order to meet accountability on the professional learning standard 6.7, “periodic updates are provided for parents of students who are identified as gifted/talented and provided gifted/talented services” (p. 20). The GT Department has provided virtual meetings for different stakeholder groups including:

- Pilot Program Informational Meetings for Parents
- Monthly GT PAC Meetings on the second Wednesday of each month
- Monthly GT Task Force Meetings on the first Wednesday of each month
- Monthly COGS Meeting on the last Monday of each month

In addition, the Communication Subcommittee of the FBISD Gifted and Talented Task Force has prioritized the use of multiple communication methods during the 2020-21 school year. These written communications are distributed to Fort Bend ISD GT parents through the FBISD Communications Department. These communications include:

- GT Department Quarterly Report sent on the 15th of the month following the end of the previous quarter(See Appendix A)
- Monthly GT Newsletter, *Celebrating Gifted* sent on the first of every month (See Appendix B)
- Parent Guide for Pilot Programs sent two weeks before pilot programs begin and posted on pilot program web page (See Appendix C)

The GT Department has improved the Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented webpage (see Appendix D), adding valuable information for parents and community members. The Department has also worked with the Communication Department to have a common Gifted and Talented page on each campus webpage (see Appendix E). This page will include campus-specific information as well as department-controlled information such as announcements and important dates.

Family Challenge Series

During the 2019-20 school year, the GT Department introduced the Family Series to provide monthly opportunities for GT students and their families to get together and engage in monthly gatherings. This opportunity has continued for the 2020-21 school year with modifications.

Based on social distancing, our GT community will not be gathering during the 2020-21 school year. Instead, families will have the opportunity to participate in monthly creative building challenges. The family challenge series provides gifted children and their parents the opportunity to nurture creativity and build critical thinking skills through creative problem solving challenges. Each month will focus on a topic/theme and students along with their families will design a 3D product using a preassembled bag of challenge materials provided by the GT Department. Once designed, families are encouraged to share their creations via Twitter using the hashtag #FBISDGTFamilySeries. These monthly opportunities are outlined in a flyer (see Appendix F) that is posted on the Fort Bend ISD GT Family series web page (<https://www.fortbendisd.com/GTparentseries>) as well as included in the *Celebrating Gifted*, the GT Department's monthly newsletter.

Resources

- Fort Bend ISD (2020). *Gifted and Talented Services 2020-2021 Handbook*.
- Fort Bend ISD (2019). *Standard Operating Procedures: Gifted and Talented Handbook*.
- Fort Bend ISD (2018). *Special Programs - Gifted and Talented Students*. (EHBB Local).
- Texas Education Agency (2019). *Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students*. State of Texas. <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/gted/GTStatePlanEnglishAug05.pdf>
- Texas Educational Agency (2018). *Texas Performance Standards Project*. TPSP. <https://www.texaspsp.org/>

Appendix A

GT Third Quarter Report



QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING

OCTOBER 15, 2020

QUARTER 3 - JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER



IN THIS ISSUE

Task Force Update



Parent Advisory Committee Update

Pilots and Campuses



<http://bit.ly/GTQ3Report>

Appendix B

GT Monthly Newsletter



CELEBRATING GIFTED

October 2020

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

Defining community, self-reflection, and foundational concepts were all part of the first few weeks of virtual learning and the start of a successful year.



Erin North, 10th grade Pre-AP English teacher at **Austin High School**, gave her students the opportunity to expand on the typical "getting to know you" activity. Theirs was to include a goal word, a six-word story, a visual, song lyrics, and the identification of their thinking style and meta-cognition mode. Click on the picture to see the full video submission from **Teresa So**.



Maggie Spurlock at **Commonwealth Elementary** asked her second graders to discuss their thoughts on the components of community. See what **Chloe**, **Graham**, and **Ruhaan** had to say!

Chloe

Equality is you treat everybody the same even if they are skinny or fat or they don't have the same skin color and if they don't have the same hair.

Graham

Truthfulness is most important because if you lie other people can believe things that are not true people could get hurt or be sad or mad.

Ruhaan

It is important to be responsible because for example if you don't organize your toy room it will be impossible to find what your looking for. Also if you ask someone your not being responsible at all. I picked this because I kind of need to work on being responsible.



My nomination for mvp is the division property because it's usually the final step meaning I'm done and can relax @amberepearson

Student CP: my nomination for MVP is the reflexive property because without it numbers would not be sure of themselves @amberepearson @EHS_Knightwire @FBISDmath @fbisdgt

Student CA: my nomination for the MVP is the symmetric property because you can flip it and reverse it and it's still the same @amberepearson @EHS_Knightwire @FBISDmath @fbisdgt

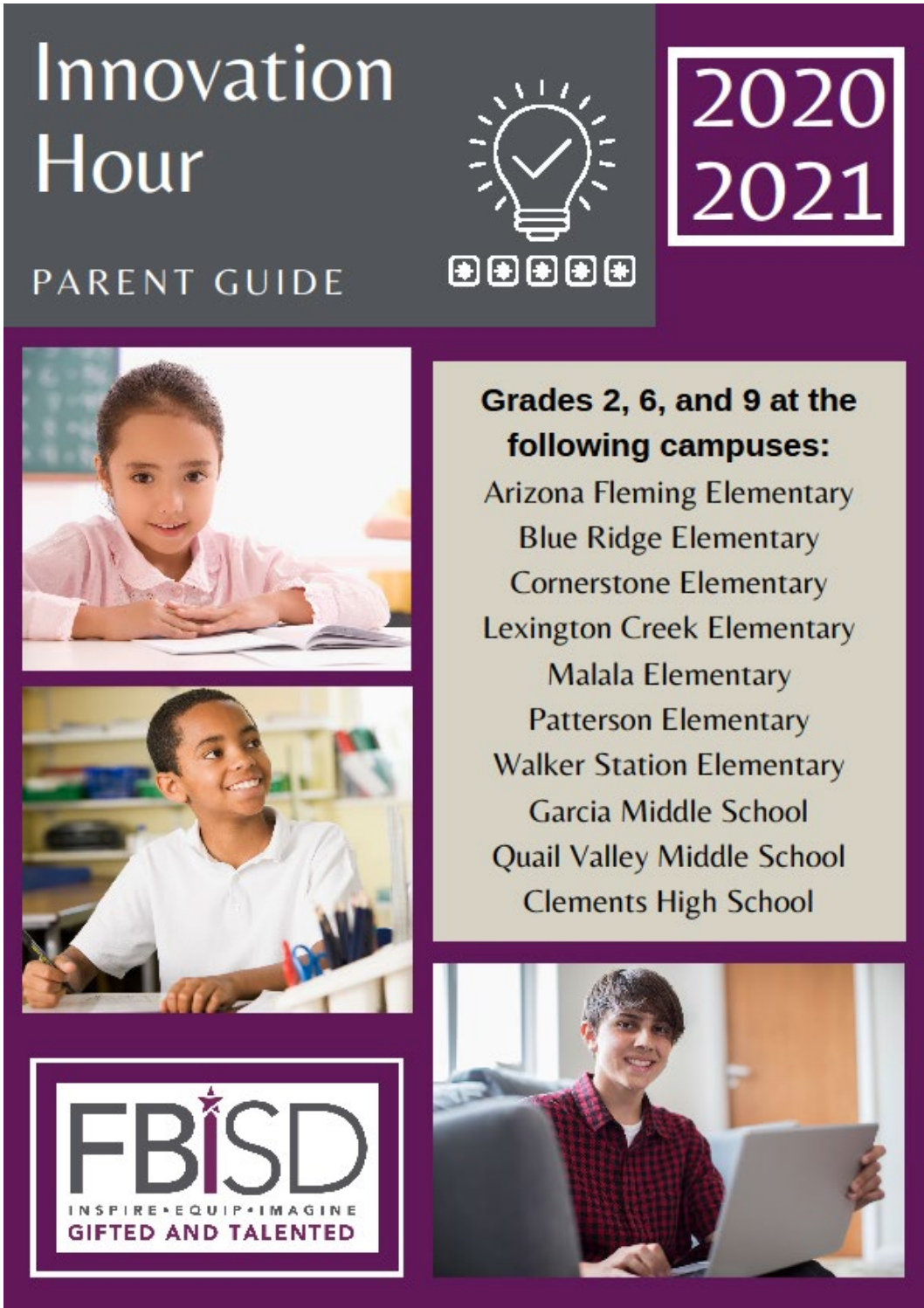
Student AV: My nomination for the MVP is the associative property because it makes all the numbers have to get along @amberepearson @EHS_Knightwire @FBISDmath @fbisdgt



Elkins High School Pre-AP Geometry teacher **Amber Pearson** had her students take to Twitter to nominate their pick for MVP - **Most Valuable Property**. Which one would get your vote?

<http://bit.ly/GTOctNewsletter>

Appendix C
Parent Guides for Pilot Programs



The cover features a dark purple header with the text "Innovation Hour" in large white font, "PARENT GUIDE" in smaller white font, a lightbulb icon with radiating lines, and a white box containing "2020" and "2021". Below the header are three photos: a girl at a desk, a boy at a desk, and a boy with a laptop. A central text box lists participating schools. At the bottom left is the FBI SD logo with the tagline "INSPIRE • EQUIP • IMAGINE GIFTED AND TALENTED".

Innovation Hour

PARENT GUIDE

2020
2021

Grades 2, 6, and 9 at the following campuses:

- Arizona Fleming Elementary
- Blue Ridge Elementary
- Cornerstone Elementary
- Lexington Creek Elementary
- Malala Elementary
- Patterson Elementary
- Walker Station Elementary
- Garcia Middle School
- Quail Valley Middle School
- Clements High School

FBI SD
INSPIRE • EQUIP • IMAGINE
GIFTED AND TALENTED

<http://bit.ly/IHParentGuide>

Appendix D

FBISD GT Department Web Page

www.fortbendisd.com/GT



Home / Departments / Gifted and Talented / Gifted and Talented Home



Gifted and Talented

Edit Page

Gifted and Talented Home
Referral and Identification
Definitions
Summer Evaluation
Fall Evaluation
Spring Evaluation
GT Transfer Evaluation
2nd Grade Cognitive Abilities Testing
Contacts
FBISD GT Programming
Task Force
Parent Advisory



Fort Bend ISD Gifted and Talented Services

In alignment with the Texas State Goal for Services for Gifted and Talented Students, the mission of the FBISD GT services is to provide learning opportunities that challenge and develop students identified for gifted services through creative, self-directed learning. This can be seen through the development of innovative projects and performances that reflect students' individuality, as well as through honed research skills and advanced critical thinking.

Gifted and Talented services are educational interventions for students who perform at or show the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment.

Elementary: Identified students in grades K-5 are cluster grouped with GT-trained teachers in the core subject areas of English language arts, social studies, science, and mathematics. Program services for identified Kindergarten students begin March 1 as mandated by the state.

GT Contact Information

General Inquiries
(281) 634-1143
Felicia Hernandez
Executive Assistant
gtfbisd@fortbendisd.com

GT Department Staff

Dr. Laurie Westphal
Director
Crystal Wilson
Elementary Program Manager
Aisha Holmes
Secondary Program Manager
Kamilah Holmes
GT Academy Coordinator
Dr. Joseph Cahill
Curriculum Integration Coordinator
Nancy Bryant
GT Mentorship Specialist



www.fortbendisd.com/GT

Appendix E

Common Gifted and Talented Page on Each Campus Web Page

HOME OUR SCHOOL ACADEMICS STUDENTS & PARENTS ATHLETICS LIBRARY & MEDIA CLUBS & ORGS STAFF CALENDAR

Home / Students & Parents / Gifted and Talented / Gifted and Talented



Gifted and Talented

Gifted and Talented

GIFTED AND TALENTED AT BAINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Identified students in grades 6-12 are provided service through open enrollment Pre-AP and AP classes with GT-trained teachers in the core subject areas of English language arts, social studies, science, and mathematics. Additional opportunities offered to secondary students include the Gifted and Talented Academy at Quail Valley Middle School (grades 6-8), and the Gifted and Talented Mentorship Program (grade 12).

Please visit the District GT web page for information on evaluation for GT services.

Dr. Matthew Milner
GT Administrator
matthew.milner@fortbendisd.com
281-634-3455

Kathryn Garza
Champion of Gifted Services
kathryn.garza@fortbendisd.com
281-634-6946

FBISD Gifted and Talented
General Inquiries
(281) 634-1357

DISTRICT WIDE GT EVENTS

[View Calendar](#)

NOVEMBER 4

GT Task Force Meeting
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Task Force Meeting
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

GT QUICK LINKS

[District GT Website](#)

[GT Communications](#)

[Parent Advisory Committee](#)

[Task Force](#)

[TPSP Home Page](#)

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/domain/17933>

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Gifted and Talented

Gifted and Talented

GIFTED AND TALENTED AT CORNERSTONE ELEMENTARY

Identified students in grades K-5 are cluster grouped with GT-trained teachers in the core subject areas of English language arts, social studies, science, and mathematics. Program services for identified Kindergarten students begin March 1 as mandated by the state. Please visit the District GT web page for information on evaluation for GT services.

We are very pleased to be an Innovation Hour pilot campus for the 2020-2021 school year. All GT-identified 2nd graders will participate in Innovation Hour during intervention and enrichment time in the school schedule. Parents of 2nd graders have received a detailed parent guide to assist them in understanding this program.

We are pleased to be a GT Learning Plan Pilot Campus for the 2020-2021 school year. Parents of GT-identified students will be receiving detailed information regarding the GT Learning Plan process prior to its implementation on the campus.

School Staff Member:
Vanessa John
(Champion of Gifted)

Vanessa.John@fortbendisd.com
281-634-6400

FBISD Gifted and Talented Services



General Inquiries
(281) 634-1357

DISTRICT WIDE GT EVENTS

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NOVEMBER 4

GT Task Force Meeting
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

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GT QUICK LINKS

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[GT Communications](#)

[Parent Advisory Committee](#)

[Task Force](#)

[TPSP Home Page](#)

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/domain/17951>

Appendix F
Family Challenge Series Flyer

FBISD GT Department Presents

FAMILY CHALLENGE SERIES

Families of gifted students in grades 1 - 12 are invited to participate in Monthly themed challenges that nurture creativity and build critical thinking skills through creative problem solving challenges.

1st Monthly Challenge	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020 THEME: FAMILY GAME NIGHT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students in grades 1-5 will design and build an arcade game. (Kits will be provided.)• Students in grades 6-12 will design a sport that can be played with social distance.
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COMPLETE [REGISTRATION HERE](#) BY 10/02/20.

STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THEIR PRODUCTS VIRTUALLY ON TWITTER FOR ALL TO SEE! PLEASE TWEET YOUR PRODUCTS USING: [#GTINFBISD](#) AND [#FBISDGTFAMILYSERIES](#)

For more information, please visit the GT Parent Series web page at: <https://www.fortbendisd.com/GTFamilySeries>

<http://bit.ly/OctoberFamilySeries>