

QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING

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QUARTER 4 - OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



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GT WORK STREAMS UPDATE

The GT Work Streams research, recommend, inform, and suggest best practices for growing and strengthening the FBISD GT Program aligned to a five-year plan. Work Stream membership includes parents, students, administrators, GT department members, district executive leadership, and community members.

In the fourth quarter of 2022, the The GT Work Streams -- **Communications**, **GT Credentialing** (*new*), **GT Representation/VISTAS**, **Secondary Service Design Enhancement**, and **Student Identification/Program Expansion** -- continued to meet on priority tasks identified in the previous quarter. Work Stream Progress is noted below:

Communications -- The Communications Work Stream has been very successful in increasing readership of the monthly newsletter through a number of different avenues. In response to a parent survey, the work stream switched from sending the newsletter as a link via District email to sending the newsletter directly through the Smore platform. This allows the newsletter to be visible in the email as opposed to requiring an additional click. The newsletter has also been placed in the GT Communications Schoology courses at every campus. The Communications Work Stream also went through the GT webpages and made edits, checked for the most current information, and made sure all of the links were live. This check will be completed on a quarterly basis to ensure that the community has the most up-to-date information available.

GT Credentialing -- The Credentialing Work Stream formulated a schedule of tasks to be completed monthly in Quarter One and Two of 2023 in preparation for the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. The Work Stream's goals drove the creation of the timeline with the intent to implement the GT credentialing in the 2023-24 school year. The focus of our Quarter One meetings will be identifying and researching other districts implementing similar systems.

GT Representation/VISTAS -- The GT Representation Work Stream will be spending the 2022-2023 school year focused on an analysis of the elementary VISTAS program. In the fourth quarter of 2022, the Work Stream finished its analysis of the Vistas program evaluation conducted by Hanover Research in 2017. It also conducted a deep dive into data surrounding student identification and growth of the Vistas program, teacher capacity, and parent and teacher training and communication. The Work Stream repeated the process used last school year by launching a root cause analysis for the data acquired during the fourth quarter. Going into the first quarter of 2023, the GT Department will conduct walk throughs of the Vistas classrooms to gather further data about the current state of program implementation. These data will be integrated into the root cause analysis initiated in Quarter Four of 2022. Once the root causes analysis is complete, the workstream will identify themes, and subsequently identify causes within each theme and strategies to address each cause in Quarter 1 of 2023.

Secondary Service Design Enhancement -- The Secondary Service Design Enhancement Work Stream spent Quarter Four researching service options for secondary GT students. They determined that the Innovation Lab elective course, a service option, will be piloted during the 2022-23 school year. The Work Stream has met with campus leaders to discuss the recruitment process for this GT-specific elective course and is investigating instructional resources to support teachers in implementing the Innovation Lab course content.

Student Identification/Program Expansion -- The Student Identification/Program Expansion (SIPE) Work Stream reviewed GT behavior observation checklists from districts both inside and outside of Texas. This review provided information the Work Stream considered for the new FBISD GT parent and student observation forms. In October and November, committee members also reviewed gifted behavior checklists from the Traits, Aptitudes, and Behaviors (TABS) Tool, Gifted Rating Scales (GRS), and Scales for the Identification of Gifted Students (SIGS) to compare and contrast similarities and differences to be considered for drafts of FBISD gifted behavior checklists for math/science and ELA/social studies. The SIPE Work Stream is currently evaluating observation characteristics for inclusion on the FBISD GT parent and teacher observation forms.

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

The members of the GT PAC are committed to ensuring that school policies and programs benefit all students, including gifted learners. The parent representatives serve as liaisons between the GT PAC and their school community, sharing Gifted and Talented programming news with their school communities and providing feedback to the committee from their school communities.

The GT Parent Advisory Committee (GT PAC) hosted its annual parent symposium December 6-8, 2022. This virtual event was specifically designed "By GT parents, for GT Parents." During the GT Parent Symposium, Dr. Laurie Westphal, Director of GT, gave the opening address "The State of GT in FBISD." Dr. Fred Bonner II, of Prairie View A&M University, presented the keynote address on "Framing and Modeling Success for Diverse Gifted Learners." There were multiple parent-led sessions, as well as networking sessions for parents of gifted students. All of the symposium sessions were recorded and are currently being edited. Once edited, all videos will be accessible on the FBISD GT Symposium website.

PILOTS AND PROGRAMMING

It is the goal of the Gifted and Talented Department in Fort Bend ISD to continue to develop innovative programming based on current research. As programming is developed, it is "piloted" at different grade levels and campuses in order to collect feedback prior to launching the initiative District-wide. The 2022-2023 pilot program continues to be Innovation Hour. As programming moves from the pilot phase into the implementation phase, we continue to monitor and report progress during its inaugural year. In 2022-23 the GT Learning Plan is moving to year one of its district-wide implementation phase.

Innovation Hour

Participating campuses:

AFE, BRE, CME, CSE, LGE, LLE, LCE, CVME, MYE, ME, PE, JPE, SWE, WSE, MGMS

Innovation Hour continues to be a productive space for students to pursue their passions while growing academically, socially, and emotionally. The GT Department conducted campus visits during Quarter Four to identify areas of need and align District-provided support with individual campus needs. The Department gathered feedback from visits to make programmatic improvements geared towards maximizing efficiency and effectiveness. Innovation Hour will continue throughout the school year.

GT Learning Plan

Campuses continued to monitor the GT Learning Plan and student progress. More than 86% of GT students had completed the goals for the GT Learning Plan and submitted the information in Skyward by the final deadline of December 2. The first progress check was entered on the GT Learning Plan by December 9. Campuses with fewer than 100% GT Learning Plans for identified gifted students are drafting plans of action to implement GT Learning Plans for the Spring semester.