

## QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING

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QUARTER 1 - JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH

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# TASK FORCE UPDATE

*The Task Force researches, recommends, informs, and suggests best practices for growing and strengthening the FBISD GT Program aligned to a five-year plan. Membership includes parents, students, administrators, GT department members, district executive leadership, and community members.*

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In the first quarter of 2021, the Task Force did not meet in January, but met in February and asynchronously in March through subcommittees. All agendas and minutes are posted on the FBISD GT web page under the Task Force tab. The Task Force subcommittees -- Acceleration, Communications, Curriculum, Secondary Service Design Enhancement, and Student Identification/Program Expansion -- continued to meet throughout the first quarter, and following are the reports from each subcommittee on the progress made toward major goals:

**Acceleration** -- This quarter, after submitting their qualitative documents for review by the general task force, the Acceleration Subcommittee solidified data sources that would be used in the qualification process for the **Accelerated Model Program (AMP)** scheduled to pilot in Fall 2021. The subcommittee finalized parent, teacher, and student surveys as well as the qualification matrix. Their current work going into quarter three includes the development of program support documents including the AMP procedural handbook and communication pieces for various stakeholders including staff and parents.

**Communications** -- The Communications Subcommittee spent some of the first quarter of 2021 collaborating with the GT PAC and evaluating its communications support requests. Beginning in the fall of 2021, the Communications Subcommittee will be supporting the **GT PAC Communications Subcommittee** in sharing news with the FBISD GT community regarding evaluation windows, the 2nd grade universal screener process, GT programming for the year, and monthly campus events and/or program updates.

The Communications Subcommittee focused the remainder of the quarter developing a resource for families who will be joining the FBISD GT community when GT service letters are shared this spring. After collecting common "new to GT" questions from parent representatives in the PAC, the subcommittee authored a **New to GT Parent Guide** to assist new parents and students in their understanding of the Fort Bend ISD GT program. The New to GT Parent Guide will be posted as a resource on all campus GT web pages and will be included in the notification correspondence to newly-identified students.

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**Curriculum** -- The Curriculum Subcommittee's primary focus this quarter has been the **Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP)** in Fort Bend ISD, specifically on secondary campuses. The expansion of TPSP has driven the need for more efficient communication channels from district to campus, and campus to students and parents. The developmental stages of a district-wide **TPSP procedural guide** are underway. To help guide FBISD's continued progress with TPSP, subcommittee members conducted interviews with multiple districts that implement TPSP at the secondary level.

**Secondary Service Design Enhancement** -- The Service Design Enhancement Subcommittee completed several tasks this quarter. The subcommittee analyzed the student survey data to determine additional GT programming options to consider for secondary students. In addition, the subcommittee determined the **GT-Specific Pre-AP (AAC) courses** being piloted during the 2021-2022 school year will be **Algebra I** and **English I**. The Service Design Subcommittee is also working to identify the course structure and title for an **Independent Study Course (ISC)** that will be piloted during the 2022-2023 school year.

**Student Identification/Program Expansion** -- The Student Identification/Program Expansion subcommittee created a **Vistas Talent Pool Parent Guide** to provide information for parents about the Vistas program. The subcommittee also finalized the **Universal Screener Feedback survey** which was sent to 2nd grade teachers in March to gather feedback on the process. In addition, the subcommittee reviewed the current **GT Learning Plan** form and submitted revisions to the Skyward team for updates to the document for the 2021-2022 school year. Recommended updates included adding additional progress checks.

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## **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.*

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The GT Parent Advisory Committee (GTPAC) have been busy preparing for the virtual GT Parent Symposium scheduled during the week of April 12, 2021. The committee has selected an online platform to host the parent sessions, identified a keynote speaker, and recruited facilitators for the parent-led sessions. The GTPAC is excited to share more detailed information about the Parent Symposium in the upcoming GT April Newsletter. In addition, the GTPAC is in the process of developing a list of action items for the 2021-2022 school year. These action items will help guide the committee's work for next school year.

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## **PILOTS AND CAMPUSES**

*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 level grade levels and campuses in order to collect feedback prior to launching the initiative District-wide. The 2020-2021 pilot programs are Innovation Hour and GT Learning Plan (reimagined).*

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### **Innovation Hour**

Participating grade levels: 2nd, 6th, 9th

Participating Campuses: AFE, BRE, CSE, LCE, MYE, JPE, WSE, GMS, QVMS, CHS

Innovation Hour continued moving forward with more student presentations. The GT Department was able to schedule visits and be a part of several Innovation Hour class periods across multiple campuses. Students are continuing to develop higher level work while communicating and collaborating with other gifted and talented students. Our Innovation Hour teachers had the opportunity to participate in a training/tutorial session with Bulb administrators to learn how to effectively and efficiently support students. And, Bulb has been made available to our Innovation Hour staff and students.

### **GT Learning Plan Reimagined (GTLP)**

Participating Campuses: WBE, CSE, HRE, EAJ, BJE, JNE, SOE, DCMS, FSMS, AHS, BHS

The GT Learning Plan Reimagined program is designed to support the gifted learner by providing a standardized format to implement and monitor GT services for students. In this first quarter of 2021, the GT Learning Plan Skyward form revision recommendations have been submitted for updates in the 2021-2022 school year. Impact of school closures and quarantining presented challenges with completing GT Learning Plans; however, GT Learning Plan Reimagined campuses had student goals entered by February 1.

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