

QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING

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QUARTER 2 - APRIL-MAY-JUNE



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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.

In the second quarter of 2021, the Task Force met in April, May and June. 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 -- met throughout the second quarter, and following are the reports from each subcommittee on the progress made toward major goals:

Acceleration -- This quarter, the Acceleration Subcommittee focused on the development of the procedural guide for the **Accelerated Model Program (AMP)** scheduled to pilot in Fall 2021. Based on feedback from the general task force meetings this quarter, the Subcommittee determined the alignment of AMP with the FBISD Profile of a Graduate, finalized the Student AMP Course Path, and confirmed the Campus Pilot Readiness Profile. The Subcommittee determined stakeholder outcomes for AMP and outlined the goals for the first year of the AMP Pilot. Year One of the AMP Pilot will be centered on capacity building, with instruction beginning in Year Two. Using the Campus Pilot Readiness Profile, the Subcommittee determined **eight pilot campuses**. In the upcoming quarter, the Acceleration Subcommittee will continue developing the AMP procedural guide in anticipation of the Year One Pilot in Fall 2021.

Communications -- The Communications Subcommittee spent the second quarter of 2021 refining the monthly newsletter and making it more accessible to all families through the **Smore platform**. The May and June newsletters went out using this platform. Additionally, the Communications Subcommittee has been focused on new priorities for the 2021-2022 school year. The first priority is to enhance **campus to GT family communications** about GT programming and important timelines. The second priority is to increase **direct communication with secondary students** about GT programming and other opportunities such as scholarships, outside contests/competitions, and interest surveys. The process of reaching our older students has begun through a request placed in the June newsletter, asking parents to add their secondary children to **Blackboard Connect**, the District's mass-messaging system. Finally, the subcommittee sent a **communications survey** to the GT community. The results of that survey will be detailed in the Quarter 3 report.

Curriculum -- The Curriculum Subcommittee's primary focus this quarter has been the **Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) in Fort Bend ISD** for the 2021-2022 school year. The Subcommittee created a district-wide guide to address procedural implementation. The GT Department used the guide to design a professional learning experience for all FBISD teachers providing Gifted and Talented services. To facilitate FBISD's continued growth with TPSP, Subcommittee members worked to ensure the guiding document would create more efficient role definition for all campus stakeholders and provide multiple resources to support the TPSP process moving forward.

Secondary Service Design Enhancement -- During this quarter, the Secondary Service Design Enhancement Subcommittee have been working to develop all aspects of the **GT specific independent study course** (title, course description, and structure). The GT specific independent study course (Innovation Lab) will be offered to 7th grade GT students. Students enrolled in this course will receive a local elective credit. This elective course is scheduled to be piloted during the 2022-2023 school year. The Secondary Service Design Subcommittee will continue to focus on curriculum development for this course in the upcoming quarters. Additionally, the Five-Year Task Maps have been revised to reflect additional tasks to complete this work.

Student Identification/Program Expansion -- The Student Identification/Program Expansion Subcommittee created a **GT Learning Plan Handbook** to provide a quick reference guide for campus staff. In addition, the subcommittee reviewed and amended the **Profile of a Vistas Talent Pool Teacher** for the 2021-2022 school year.

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 Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) hosted the GT Parent Symposium the week of April 12th – April 17th. Parents had the opportunity to attend virtual sessions in which GT parents shared their experiences and perspectives about raising GT children. There were a total of 14 different session topics offered during the symposium. The symposium concluded with an amazing keynote presentation provided by David Sebek. He presented “Developing a Growth Mindset to Battle Perfectionism.” In addition, various secondary students had the opportunity to share their thoughts about being gifted, participating on a student panel moderated by Angie Hanan. The parent-led video presentations are currently posted on the FBISD GT webpage/GT Symposium page for parents who are interested in viewing the sessions and other materials from the symposium. The PAC concluded the school year by holding an election to select the Executive Board for the 2021-22 school year.

The 2021-22 newly elected Executive Board includes:

Wendy Pennings, Meadows Elementary, as President,
Amit Kumar, Colony Meadows Elementary, as President-Elect,
Sharon Thorne-Green, Travis High School, as Parliamentarian, and
Kim Hibsich, Neill Elementary as Secretary.

The outgoing and incoming Executive Boards met to discuss the accomplishments and next steps for the PAC for the 2021-22 school year.

The GT Department would like to take a moment to thank all the 2020-21 PAC members for their time and commitment this school year!

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).

Innovation Hour

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

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

The initial pilot year of Innovation Hour wrapped up as a success. The GT Department was invited to attend (virtually) the innovation sessions at all of the pilot elementary and middle schools. Innovation Hour students were able to create and articulate their passions by producing products and presenting for audiences of peers, teachers, and administrators. Interviews with outside experts were conducted with teacher facilitation and support. Feedback was gathered from campuses to gain insight on the needs of the program as it expands for the 2021-2022 school year. The following campuses have been invited to participate in Year 2:

Colony Meadows ES
Goodman ES
Lantern Lane ES
Madden ES

Meadows ES
Palmer ES
Pecan Grove ES
Settlers Way ES

Bowie MS

GT Learning Plan Reimagined (GTLP)

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

The GT Learning Plan Reimagined pilot revealed that the protocols and processes that have been improved enable campuses to effectively implement GT Learning Plans for students. These improvements demonstrate that campuses have support and information to ensure that GT Learning Plans are implemented with fidelity. Prior to district-wide implementation of the GT Learning Plan, additional campuses have been identified by the Student Identification and Program Expansion GT Task Force subcommittee to participate in the second (2nd) year of the GT Learning Plan Reimagined Pilot. The following campuses have been invited to participate in year 2:

Austin Parkway ES
Commonwealth ES
Glover ES
Lantern Lane ES

Leonetti ES
Malala ES
Oyster Creek ES
Walker Station ES

Baines MS
Sartartia MS
Travis HS