

## QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING

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QUARTER 1 - JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH

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# GT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM UPDATE

*The GT Implementation Team Work Streams research, recommend, inform, and suggest 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 2022, the The GT Implementation Team Work Streams -- Communications, GT Representation, Secondary Service Design Enhancement, and Student Identification/Program Expansion -- met throughout the quarter, and following are the reports from each work stream on the progress made toward major goals:

**Acceleration** -- The Acceleration Work Stream committee did not meet during the first quarter of the year. This work stream has been put on hold to assess the budgetary needs of initiative proposals. Any new updates will be provided moving forward.

**Communications** -- The Communications Work Stream spent the first quarter of 2022 re-prioritizing topics for communication based on previous analytics, and work is currently in progress to access the individual campus **GT web page analytics**. Having access to this data will allow us to leverage the campus GT web pages for optimal communications on programming and planning. Additionally, the Communications Work Stream is researching best practices for consistency in the use of **GT Schoology groups** and the content enclosed. This will be an ongoing process for the second quarter.

**Elementary Service Expansion Exploratory** -- During Quarter Four of 2021 the Elementary Exploratory Work Stream researched and explored various elementary options. During the Quarter One of 2022, various researched ideas were shared with District Administration for feedback.

**GT Representation** -- During Quarter One, the GT Representation Work Stream continued the Root Cause Identification process by identifying four representational themes within the data collected in Quarter Four 2021: (1) underrepresentation based on ethnicity, (2) underrepresentation based on economic status, (3) gaps in grade level representation, and (4) disproportional referrals at Title I Campuses. Based on these themes, the Work Stream has identified both causes in each area and has started the process of identifying strategies to address each cause.

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**Secondary Service Design Enhancement** -- The Secondary Service Design Enhancement Work Stream submitted a proposal for a GT- specific independent study course called "**Innovation Lab.**" This course is designed for gifted students in grades 7 and 8. During the 2022-23 school year, this course will be piloted at several campuses. The process of identifying pilot campuses is underway. In order to recruit students for this course, an infomercial has been created and will be shared at the pilot campuses.

**Student Identification/Program Expansion** -- The Student Identification/Program Expansion (SIPE) Work Stream examined a variety of GT Identification Profile drafts for ease of understanding and readability of a student's eligibility for gifted and talented services in Fort Bend ISD. The SIPE Work Stream is continuing to research and evaluate additional qualitative measures for efficacy and possible implementation in the FBISD GT identification process. In February, committee members identified the following qualitative measures to evaluate for inclusion in the GT identification process: Total Talent Portfolio, Performance-Based Assessment, or Portfolio Assessment. The committee is also working to determine if a separate identification profile with additional measures should be implemented to evaluate kindergarten students.

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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 (GT PAC) held its annual **GT Parent Symposium** on February 23, February 24 and February 26. This virtual event was designed specifically "By Parents, For Parents." Dr. Laurie Westphal, Director of Gifted and Talented, opened with a presentation on the "State of GT in FBISD." In addition, there were eight-sessions led by parents of gifted students. During the symposium's finale, Dr. C. Matthew Fugate, an Assistant Professor at the University of Houston-Downtown, gave the keynote address. Dr. Fugate's session "There are 2E's in CrEativE: Attention Divergent Hyperactive Giftedness" focused on increasing the understanding of creativity in education for both the individual and society as a whole.

You can access the parent-led sessions and keynote address on the [GT Symposium Webpage](#). The following is a list of the sessions offered during the 2022 GT Parent Symposium:

- The Emotional Well Being of Your GT Child
- ADHD, Executive Functioning and GT
- Supporting Disintegrating Students
- The Journey of a New GT Parent
- Gen Z- Who are They and How Can We Connect with Them?
- Nurturing Your GT Child at Home
- Can My GT Child Have Dyslexia Too?
- GT Endeavors in High School: A Primer for Elementary and Early Middle School Parents

We would like to thank our GT PAC parents for hosting an awesome event!

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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 2021-2022 pilot programs continue to be Innovation Hour and GT Learning Plan (Reimagined).*

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## Innovation Hour

### **Participating campuses and grade levels:**

AFE (2&4), BRE (2&3), CME (2), CSE (2&3), LGE (2), LLE (2), LCE (2&3), CVME (2), MYE (2&3), ME (2), PE (2), JPE (2&3), SWE (2), WSE (2&3), JBMS (6), MGMS (6&7), QVMS (6&7)

Innovation Hour has continued on both Year One and Year Two campuses. The Gifted and Talented Department has been visiting Innovation Hour campuses to provide support, receive feedback, and monitor progress in the program. Students have been creating projects and speaking with experts to gain valuable insight and advice to progress their learning. Training is in development for all levels of Innovation Hour teachers for the 2022-2023 school year. Additional campus visits are being scheduled to wrap up the school year and celebrate student accomplishments.

## GT Learning Plan Reimagined (GTLP)

**Participating Campuses:** APE, WBE, CWE, CSE, EGE, HRE, EAJ, BJE, LLE, DLE, MYE, JNE, OCE, SOE, WSE, DCMS, FSMS, SMS, AHS, BHS, THS

During the 3rd nine weeks, teachers met with students to revisit student GT Learning Plan goals and entered progress check notes on the GT Learning Plan in Skyward. A communication plan for district-wide implementation of the GT Learning plan for the 2022-2023 school year was reviewed and additional suggestions were drafted. In the next quarter, professional development for teachers and campus administrators will be created and reviewed for first year campuses implementing the GT Learning Plan.