

# FBIISD

INSPIRE • EQUIP • IMAGINE  
GIFTED AND TALENTED

## QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROGRAMMING AND PLANNING

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July 15, 2022

QUARTER 2 - APRIL-MAY-JUNE

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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 second 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 continued to be on hold for the time being due to budgetary reasons and the prioritization of other initiatives at this time.

**Communications** -- The Communications Work Stream was able to evaluate campus GT web page analytics and determined that the pages are being accessed regularly by the community. High traffic months were also identified, and vital messaging will be targeted to those months for optimum reach. Additionally, Skyward personnel has shared that GT students can be automatically placed into a campus Schoology course together; this will help facilitate campus-level messaging from the campus COGS, Counselor, and/or GT Administrator with GT students and parents.

**GT Representation** -- During Quarter Two, the GT Representation Work Stream continued the Root Cause Identification Process. After identifying four themes ((1) underrepresentation based on ethnicity, (2) underrepresentation based on economic status, (3) gaps in grade level representation, and (4) disproportional referrals) within the root causes, the Work Stream identified causes within each theme and strategies to address each cause. The Work Stream also identified stakeholders associated with each strategy and the GT Department has begun the process of meeting with identified stakeholders to discuss strategies. Based on these meetings, the Department will add items to the GT five-year plan.

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**Secondary Service Design Enhancement** -- The Secondary Service Design Enhancement Work Stream identified pilot campuses for the new GT specific elective course “Innovation Lab.” The GT Department created an infomercial to gain student interest in the “Innovation Lab” course and the Secondary Service Design Enhancement Work Stream provided valuable feedback. The GT Department plans to pilot this course at Sartartia Middle School during the 2022-23 school year. The Department has also started a collaboration with the leadership team at Sartartia, with the goal of providing support for the implementation of this new course.

**Student Identification/Program Expansion** -- The Student Identification/Program Expansion (SIPE) Work Stream finalized changes for the revised GT Identification Profile. Once revised, additional feedback was gathered from counselors and parents on two proposed versions of GT Identification Profile documents regarding readability and understanding of student eligibility for gifted and talented services in Fort Bend ISD. Based on counselor and parent feedback, the SIPE work stream selected version 1 as the revised GT Identification Profile moving forward. Going into 2022-23, the SIPE Work Stream will be researching and evaluating portfolio assessments for possible implementation in the FBISD GT identification process. Also, as part of the revision process, the Work Stream decided to postpone researching a separate identification profile with additional measures 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 a New to GT Parent Mini Symposium on May 3, 2022. The GT PAC is excited to announce over 100 parents new to GT attended this event. This virtual event was specifically designed By Parents, For Parents. During the general session, parents received an overview of the GT program. Participants then could choose one of three breakout sessions led by parents of gifted students here in FBISD. Our new to GT parents had the opportunity to ask any question(s) they had about the GT program. We would like to thank our GT PAC parents for hosting an awesome event!

Elections for the 2022-23 GT PAC Executive Board were held May 2 - May 9. We would like to welcome the 2022-23 Executive Board members:

- **Monica Willis** (President),
- **Sonia Linnell** (President-Elect),
- **Deepa Vaidynath** (Secretary), and
- **Tina Ojo** (Parliamentarian).

We will host a “Meet and Greet” for the outgoing and incoming Executive Board members in late June. The GT Department is looking forward to collaborating with the GT PAC Executive Board this upcoming 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 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)

Year Two of Innovation Hour has come to a successful close. The Gifted and Talented Department had the privilege of visiting Innovation Hour campuses to witness the amazing work and products produced by students from all grade levels. Several projects from Innovation Hour were submitted as campus representatives for the District Gifted & Talented Virtual Showcase. The program will continue in the fall, "expanding up" as Innovation Hour students move into the next higher grade level. In addition, summer training to continue building capacity in the District's Innovation Hour leaders has been planned and scheduled.

## 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 4th nine weeks, teachers met with students to finalize student GT Learning Plans goals and entered final status on the GT Learning Plan in Skyward. In preparation for a District-wide roll-out of the GT Learning Plans in 2022-23, professional development for teachers and campus administrators has been created for first year campuses implementing the GT Learning Plan in the 2022-2023 school year.

In addition, feedback was gathered from secondary principals to address monitoring GT Learning Plans at middle and high schools for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. Based on principal feedback, middle and high school campuses will have the option to use the recommended GT cluster advisory model or identify an alternative GT Learning Plan monitoring model to ensure implementation and fidelity of the GT Learning Plan process.