



KATY ISD  
GIFTED AND TALENTED  
AWARENESS SLIDESHOW

# TEXAS STATE DEFINITION OF GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENTS

In this subchapter, “gifted and talented student” means a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

# TEXAS STATE DEFINITION OF GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENTS

1. exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area
2. possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or
3. excels in a specific academic field

Source: TEA, *Texas State Plan and Guidelines for the Education of the Gifted/Talented*, Austin, TX

# CHARACTERISTICS OF A GIFTED CHILD

## High Achiever

- Knows the answers
- Learns with ease
- Completes assignment
- Enjoys school
- Absorbs information
- Good memorizer
- Pleased with own learning

## Gifted Learner

- Asks the questions
- Already knows
- Initiates projects
- Enjoys learning
- Manipulates information
- Good guesser
- Is highly self-critical

## ***TEXAS STATE PLAN***

- Establishes the expectation that the screening criteria for a district's program match the program design.
- Students who are identified should have the expectation of success in the program.
- Each district has its own identification requirements for the district GT program.

# ELEMENTARY GT PROGRAM: CHALLENGE

- **“Pull-out”** model – identified children leave the regular classroom one full day per week
- The Challenge class may include multiple grade levels on campuses with small GT enrollment
  - For example, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade on one day; 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade on another
- Focus on *general intellectual ability*
- Theme-based advanced curriculum:
  - High Interest Units
  - Creative Problem Solving
  - Questioning strategies
  - Field trips
  - Independent study

# QUESTIONS PARENTS ASK ABOUT THE ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

- **How is my child evaluated in Challenge ?**
  - Competencies are recorded on the report card each grading period: *Excellent, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, Unsatisfactory.*
  - Areas evaluated: Skill Development, Task Commitment and Independence/Self- directed Learning.
  - Evaluations are relative to what is expected of gifted children in the Challenge classroom
  - No formal letter grades

# QUESTIONS PARENTS ASK ABOUT THE ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

- **What happens in the regular classroom when my child is in Challenge?**

Classroom teachers have an opportunity to provide additional practice that gifted learners typically do not require for mastery.



# QUESTIONS PARENTS ASK ABOUT THE ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

- **Is my child expected to make up work that is missed while in Challenge?**

Students are responsible for homework assignments that are given to the entire class, they but are not responsible for the assignments completed during class time.

# ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

- Destination Imagination
- KPGT activities and events
- TAGT Summer Scholarship Opportunity (all levels)
- Camp Invention

# KATY ISD IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Multiple criteria must be considered:

- **Qualitative** measures
  - Parent Checklist
  - Classroom Observation
- **Quantitative** measures
  - Ability test scores (normed by age)
  - Achievement test scores (normed by grade level)
  - Intelligence test scores (grades 1-4)
- Five/Six criteria must be met for placement.

# HOW TO REFER YOUR CHILD

- Pick up the *Elementary Parent Checklist* (referral form) from your campus or from the KISD website—  
[www.katyisd.org](http://www.katyisd.org)
- Return the form to the campus counselor or the Challenge teacher at your child's campus.
- Deadline for all grades **1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> — October 29, 2021**

# HOW TO REFER YOUR CHILD

- Returning the *Parent Checklist* is the first step in the screening process.
- The signature on the Parent Checklist authorizes the district to screen the child for the GT program and serve the child in the program if identified.
- Testing takes place at each campus during the school day. Parents will receive notification of a general testing window.

# TESTING OCCURS ON CAMPUS

- Elementary—GT Test Proctor
- If students are well enough to be at school, they are prepared to take the screening assessments.
- Students who are ill should stay at home, and testing can be rescheduled.

# GT PLACEMENT DECISIONS

- Campus selection committee meets to evaluate indicators and determine appropriate placement.
- The committee is typically made up of an administrator, the GT Facilitator and a counselor; all members must have training in the Nature and Needs of Gifted Learners.
- No single indicator guarantees acceptance or non-acceptance.

# GT PLACEMENT DECISIONS

- Parents are notified of the decision by U.S. mail when all screening is complete.
- The district has a process for filing formal concerns regarding the placement decision.
- Children who are identified are not screened again each year, as long as they are experiencing success in the program.



# GT PLACEMENT DECISIONS

- Students who are not identified may be referred for screening again in subsequent years.
- Identified students who leave the district may re-enter the KISD GT program upon their return IF within the same level (elementary to elementary; secondary to secondary)

# ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

## **What if my child is not successful in the program?**

Contact the GT facilitator about exit policies.

## **Can my child leave the program?**

Yes; procedures are in place for both formal exits and furloughs.

## **What is a furlough?**

A temporary exit from a GT course for specific reasons detailed in KISD board policy, such as a schedule conflict. Furloughs are limited to a specific timeframe.

# ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

## **What if I disagree with the placement decision?**

Contact the campus GT Facilitator within 15 school days of receiving your notification letter.

## **What if we move to a different school in Katy ISD or my child is affected by changes in attendance zones?**

Students identified for the KISD GT Program at one campus will join the GT Program at their new campus.



## **MORE QUESTIONS?**

**If you have any questions about the screening process for your child, contact either...**

- 1. Elementary Challenge teacher**
- 2. Counselor at your child's school**

## Elementary Campus Abbreviation w/ Teacher Assignments

<b>Campus</b>			<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Support Teacher</b>
Alexander	117	RAE	Olivia Watson	Amy Harper-Spradley
Bear Creek	106	BCE	Sarah Clark	
Bethke	141	CBE	Cris Bowden	
Bryant	142	BES	Jodi Foreman	
Campbell	143	ACE	Kelley Butts	
Cimarron	107	CE	Sylvia Pursley	
Creech	119	SCE	Sarah Clark	
Davidson	138	KDE	Shannon Jones-Hall	Katherine Garcia
Exley	124	JEE	Sylvia Pursley	
Fielder	114	FE	Natalie Mahr	
Franz	126	FES	Natalie Mahr	
Golbow	113	GE	Katie Abbey	
Griffin	127	MGE	Carla Morgan	
Hayes	115	JHE	Christina Ramirez	
Holland	131	BHE	Mina Rezaie	Bonnie Austin
Hutsell	105	HE	Jodi Foreman	
Jenks	140	MJE	Samantha Lawrence	Michelle McVey/Pam Hedegaard-Schou
Katy	102	KE	Rose Sager	

Kilpatrick	122	OKE	Valerie Hang	Gwyn Ingram / Amy Harper Spradley
King	120	RKE	Bonnie Austin	
Leonard	144	OLE	Liz Harden	
Mayde Creek	111	MCE	Christina Ramirez	
McElwain	145	PMCE	Cris Bowden	
McRoberts	116	PME	Liz Harden	
Memorial Parkway	104	MPE	Pam Hedegaard-Schou	
Morton Ranch	130	MRE	Sue Wilson	
Nottingham	109	NCE	Ann Treat	
Pattison	112	PE	Virginia Neville	
Randolph	139	JRE	Michelle McVey	
Rhoads	125	RES	Liz Harden	
Rylander	123	RRE	Karen Cooper	
Schmalz	121	SES	Katie Abbey	
Shafer	137	FPSE	Stacey Stokes	Gwyn Ingram
Stanley	132	SSE	Tina Finney	Rebecca Fuller
Stephens	128	USE	Rebecca Fuller	
Sundown	110	SE	Ajaya Sonde	
West Memorial	103	WME	Karen Cooper	
Williams	118	JWE	Ajaya Sonde	
Wilson	133	TWE	Taryn Fox	Katherine Garcia
Winborn	108	DWE	Rose Sager	
Wolfe	101	WE	Sue Wilson	
Wolman	134	RJWE	Sharon Clark	
WoodCreek	129	WCE	Mary Ann Johnston	Ann Treat / Katie Abbey



**OFFICE OF GIFTED/TALENTED AND  
ADVANCED ACADEMIC STUDIES**

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# G/T LINKS

- [www.katyisd.org](http://www.katyisd.org)
  - Departments/GT and Advanced Academic Studies
- KPGT: [www.kpgt.org](http://www.kpgt.org)
- TAGT: [www.txgifted.org](http://www.txgifted.org)
- NAGC: [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)





**THANK YOU!**