Gifted & Talented

Parent Awareness Session

Elementary

EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



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- GT Admin: Andrew Veilleux
- GT Co-Chair: Mrs. Enriquez
- GT Co-Chair: Ms. Moreno





Meeting Overview

- What does it mean to be gifted?
- Identifying gifted learners
- El Paso ISD Gifted & Talented Service Design
- Texas Performance Standards Projects (TPSP)
- Identification and Screening
- Parent Resources
- Q&A

Texas Definition of Gifted & Talented Students

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:

- 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.



The Difference between...

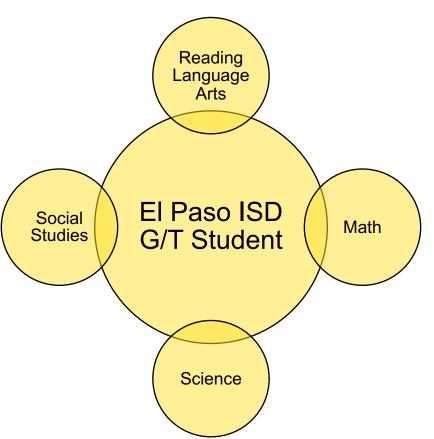
A Bright Child

A Gifted Child

- ✓ Knows the answers
- ✓ Is interested.
- ✓ Is attentive.
- √ Has good ideas
- ✓ Works hard
- ✓ Answers the questions
- ✓ Listens with interest
- ✓ Learns with ease
- ✓ Enjoys peers
- ✓ Completes assignments
- ✓ Copies accurately
- ✓ Enjoys school
- ✓ Absorbs information
- ✓ Is pleased with own learning

- ✓ Asks the questions
- √ Is highly curious
- ✓ Is mentally and physically involved
- ✓ Has wild, silly ideas
- ✓ Plays around, yet tests well
- ✓ Discusses in detail, elaborates
- ✓ Shows strong feelings and opinions
- ✓ Already knows
- ✓ Prefers adults
- ✓ Initiates projects
- ✓ Creates a new design
- ✓ Enjoys learning
- ✓ Is keenly observant
- ✓ Is highly self-critical

El Paso ISD Gifted & Talented Service Design



Students are currently identified and served in the four (4) core content areas.

EPISD Gifted and Talented Program Commitment

• EPISD Gifted and Talented Service Design provides an array of learning opportunities commensurate with abilities designed to reinforce the strengths and interests of gifted and talented students. EPISD Gifted and Talented program options include acceleration and flexible pacing as well as including services that are comprehensive, structured, sequenced and challenging. EPISD students served in GT programs will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment.



Elementary Options

K-5 Gifted & Talented Program (SWE)

Offered at all Elementary Campuses

- GT students will receive core content from GT trained teachers in a mixed GT/non-GT environment.
- Addresses all four core subjects as well as fine arts, creativity, and leadership and provides appropriate differentiation in content, process, and product.
- GT students are ensured opportunities to work together as a group, work with non-GT students, and work independently during the school day/school year.
- GT students may be clustered with a GT trained teacher in a daily or weekly 45-minute pull-out program. This program is optional for the campuses and dependent on other services needed by the students.
- GT Students will have opportunities to continue the Dual Language program in connection with the Gifted and Talented program.



Elementary Options continued...

4th & 5th Grade Connections

Offered at various Elementary Campuses

- The Connections program is built around the examination of universal themes and integrates the study of ELAR, math, social studies, science, and the arts.
- The curriculum is aligned to the Texas State Plan for Gifted Education and the TEKS Resource System.
- Services are available during the school day as well as the entire school year.

Connecting Worlds/Mundos Unidos Grades 1-5 Offered only at Mesita

- This program utilizes a dual language immersion model in which two heterogeneous identified GT groups, both native English-speaking and native Spanishspeaking children, share the same rich learning environment.
- Designed to promote bilingualism, creative thinking, problem solving, cultural awareness, active parent involvement, and high levels of achievement which comply with the standards set by the *Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students.*
- Services are available during the school day as well as the entire school year.





Designing Spaces

Grade 5, Mathematics

Examine the role of mathematics in architecture and create a design that reflects human needs and environmental considerations.











Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP)

 The Texas Performance Standards Project comprises a set of performance standards, curricula, and assessments for differentiating instruction and deepening academic learning. TPSP enhances gifted/talented programs from kindergarten through high school.

District/Campus Sponsored Clubs and Projects

- EPISD Film Fest
- Coding/Robotics
- STEM
- Destination Imagination
- Science & STEM Fair



Identification & Screening

District Policy

Referrals can be accepted from parent(s), community members, and/or school staff. Referrals can also come from peers or self-referral if a district provides this opportunity. A district may also choose to use a common assessment test score referral. **All Kindergarten students will be considered for G/T testing. Testing and placement must be done by February.



District or campus G/T trained committee composed of 3 or more members review the data to determine eligibility for best service options for assessed students.



Screening results are shared with parents and parent permission requested for qualifying students.



Qualified students' participants in the approved program options of the LEA.

**Assessment opportunities are available to students at least once per school year.





EPISD uses Four Criteria for G/T Identification

- RIAS-2 as the subjective standard measurement (Criteria 1)
- Teacher observation (Criteria 2)
- Parent Observation (Criteria 3)
- Creative Assessment (Criteria 4)

These criteria are used to account for the whole child via a holistic campus-based GT committee decision.



- TAGT Parent Resources
 - https://www.txgifted.org/parents
- TAGT Affiliated Parent Support Groups
 - https://www.txgifted.org/pa rent-support-groups
- National Association for Gifted Children
 - https://www.nagc.org/reso urcespublications/resourcesparents
- · The Gifted Guru
 - https://www.giftedguru.co m/resources/resourcesfor-parents/

imaginatior non-conforming robotics imagination f intense independent learner leader mo gifted ronous que rected innovative inventions m solver model united nations ocial emotional overexcitabilitie twice-exceptional curious

