



GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT • GAVILAN COLLEGE

# GECA

DR. TJ OWENS GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY

BE SOMEONE • GO SOMEWHERE • SEEK EXCELLENCE

**NEW: Recommendation Form is due between 11/18 – 12/13** via e-mail or fax to Mrs. Heather DeRosa (see submission instructions on bottom of page)

## Student Assessment and Recommendation

Thank you for taking the time to perform this Student Assessment and Recommendation. Your input will help us to determine if GECA is the best placement for the applicant. The Academy is an innovative, academic environment designed to serve motivated students with high potential for future academic and career success. Early College High Schools seek to improve the opportunities for students traditionally underrepresented in a four-year university setting. Dr. TJ Owens Gilroy Early College Academy is an educational partnership between Gilroy Unified School District and Gavilan College and is one of the Early College High Schools that was initially funded through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Academy is an innovative, academic environment designed to serve motivated students with high academic achievement potential. Early College High Schools are small schools that seek to (1) prepare at-risk high school students for successful career and educational futures through a full integration of a rigorous high school and college academic venue with the world of work; (2) improve academic performance and self-concept; and (3) increase high school and college/university completion rates.

From those students who demonstrate the required academic potential, we then look for students who meet one or more of the following criteria, based on the Early College High School mission of serving students traditionally underrepresented in a four-year university setting:

- First in the immediate family (parents and siblings) to attend and graduate from a four-year college or university
- From a low income family (qualifies for free/reduced lunch)
- Speak a language at home that is other than English
- Faced with special circumstances that may be obstacles to future academic achievement in a traditional high school environment

Admittance to the Academy is not limited to students meeting the above-mentioned criteria. It is based on a holistic review of the student's completed/submitted application, which includes (but is not limited to) this completed student assessment and recommendation, a personal essay, a parent statement, most recent CAASPP scores, previous academic achievement, and results/recommendation from an interview panel. Applicants should have an overall GPA of 2.5 – 4.0, CAASPP scores in the "Meeting or Exceeding Standards" range, a history of excellent attendance and citizenship with minimal school discipline issues, and the ability to read above the 9<sup>th</sup> grade level.

Students at GECA will be enrolled in Honors and Advanced Placement high school courses and up to 11 units a semester of transferable college courses. All AP and transferable college courses receive accelerated grade point weighting for high school GPA computation.

We are a tightly knit school community that is, in many respects, a second family. We have our fun, too, with student government, clubs, Academic Decathlon, newspaper, plays, dances, proms, field trips, and other special events. Additionally, both music and drama instruction/participation are available through Gavilan. As you can see, except for competitive sports teams, we have many extra-curricular opportunities and events.

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:** Please fill in the information requested below, as well as the evaluation on the following page. Please return these completed forms to Mrs. Heather DeRosa via:

- Fax – (408) 848-4730, or
- Scan and E-mail to [heather.derosa@gilroyunified.org](mailto:heather.derosa@gilroyunified.org)

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## Student Assessment and Recommendation Grid

**Instructions:** The Assessment and Recommendation Grid is broken down into two areas: *Academics* and *Personal*. For each descriptor, place a check (✓) in the appropriate column, which, in your opinion, best describes the student. *A relative numerical value is shown for your reference.* Use the *Additional Comments* area to add any pertinent information that you believe would help in our decision making process.

Recommendation for: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Name)

Student is in my **MATH** or **ENGLISH** class at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Circle) (Name of Current School)

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Recommender Name)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Academics →	Outstanding	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Intellectual Ability					
Study Habits					
Intellectual Curiosity					
Creativity / Originality					
Self-Motivation					
Ability to Work:					
Independently					
Cooperatively					
Personal →	Outstanding	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Self-Confidence					
Leadership Potential					
Personal Integrity / Honesty					
Willingness to Accept Responsibility					
Willingness to Accept Criticism					
Respect For:					
Authority					
Self					
Peers					

**OVERALL RECOMMENDATION:** *Circle One*

Highly recommend <i>without</i> Reservation	Recommend <i>without</i> Reservation	Strongly Recommend	Recommend <i>with</i> Reservations	Do <u>NOT</u> Recommend
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**Please include additional comments below**