Kaufman ISD Gifted and Talented Program
Referral and Identification Process

The Kaufman Independent School District seeks to identify those students who possess exceptional abilities and potential for accomplishment so outstanding that they require special gifted and talented programs to meet their educational needs. Through the procedure described below, an ongoing, comprehensive, and systematic review of all students will be made in an attempt to identify those students in need of gifted/talented services. The purpose of identification is to determine which students will benefit from the services provided in the district's program for gifted/talented students.

There are three referral windows during the academic school year. The first is in September for newly enrolled students who meet the following criteria; new to district, previously identified as G/T, home-schooled, or private-schooled. The second window is for Kindergarten students and is from October to December. The last window is the open referral for students in grades 1-12 (January-March). Kaufman ISD screens all Kindergarten, first, and third graders during the corresponding window. Secondary students are assessed on request.

Teacher-, parent-, and self-nominations are accepted at all grade levels. Selection is based on a matrix score consisting of intelligence tests, achievement tests, learning, motivation, creativity, leadership, teacher inventory, parent inventory, benchmarks or STAAR scores, and grades. Assessments that are used are: CogAT, ITBS, STAAR, and the Renzulli Scales. Planned Experiences, OSLAT, and the Stanford assessments are used in Kindergarten. Written parental consent for assessment is required.

Characteristics to look for when nominating a student

Intellectual	Academic Fields	Creativity	Affective
Has an extensive and detailed memory, particularly in the area of interest	Has an intense, sustained interest in field	Prefers complexity and open-endedness	Unusual emotional depth and intensity
Has vocabulary advanced for age	Has hobbies/collections related to field	Contributes new concepts, methods, products, or performances	Sensitive or empathy to the feelings of others
Has communication skills advanced for age and is able to express ideas and feelings	Attracted toward cognitive complexity, enjoys solving complex problems	Has extreme fluency of thoughts and a large number of ideas	High expectations of self and others
Asks intelligent questions	Is highly self-motivated, persistent	Is observant and pays attention to detail	Heightened self-awareness, accompanied by feelings of being different
Is able to identify the important characteristics of new concepts	Prefers classes/careers in the academic field	Uses unique solutions to problems, improvises	Easily wounded, need for emotional support
Learns information quickly	Broad base of knowledge	Challenges existing ideas and products	Advanced levels of moral judgment
Uses logic in arriving at common sense answers	Visualizes images and translates into other forms	Is a risk-taker, confident	Idealism and sense of justice
Has a broad base of knowledge- a large quantity of information	Uses vocabulary beyond grade level	Is attracted to the novel, complex, and mysterious	**Behavioral**
Understands abstract ideas and complex concepts	Recalls critical elements and details in learning concepts	Is a nonconformist, uninhibited inexpression, adventurous, able to resist group pressure	Insatiable curiosity Constantly questions Highly energetic-needs little sleep or down time
Uses analogical thinking, problem solving, or reasoning	Has an inquisitive nature	Accepts disorder	Impulsive, eager, spirited
Observes relationships and sees connections	Reads widely in academic field	Has a sense of humor	High levels of frustration
Finds and solves difficult and unusual problems	Verbalizes complex concepts and processes	Is emotionally sensitive; sensitive to beauty	Volatile temper, especially related to perceptions of failure
Wants to learn and is curious	Examines and recalls details	Is intuitive	Non-stop talking/chattering/or extremely introverted