

# GIFTED AND TALENTED IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION SESSION

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Barbers Hill ISD

2019-2020

## AGENDA

- Gifted and Talented Definition
- State of Texas Goals for Gifted and Talented Services
- Barbers Hill ISD GT Referral and Identification Process
- Barbers Hill ISD GT Services
- GT Transfer Process for Students New to Barbers Hill ISD
- GT Resources
- Questions?



# GIFTED AND TALENTED DEFINITION

## WHAT IS A GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT?

“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:

- (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

Texas Education Code  
Section 29.121

## WHAT ARE SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF A GIFTED CHILD?

- It is important to note that there are not one or two characteristics that an educator can point to in order to say that a student is gifted
- It is a combination of characteristics inclusive, but not limited to:
  - highly curious
  - initiates projects
  - discusses things in detail
  - draws inferences and grasps underlying principles
  - highly creative, and
  - extraordinary memory as compared to peers



## STATE OF TEXAS GOALS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED SERVICES



## WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF GIFTED AND TALENTED SERVICES?

Students who participate in services designed for gifted/talented students 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.

High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted/talented students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

STATE GOAL FOR SERVICES FOR  
GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENTS

## BARBERS HILL ISD GT REFERRAL AND IDENTIFICATION PROCESS



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## WHAT IS THE PROCESS OF REFERRING A STUDENT FOR GT SERVICES?

- Student is referred for consideration of gifted and talented services by the completion of the referral form on the district website
  - Any student referred will be screened
  - Paper referrals will not be accepted
  - If you have child who is currently identified, you do not need to complete this form
- Note: In 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, all students complete the GT screener unless a parent opts out of this additional testing
- Parent/Guardian is notified of the referral and a permission form for assessment is sent home
  - Permission for testing must be received before further testing is done

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## WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING STUDENTS FOR GT SERVICES?

- Parent/Guardian grants permission for assessment by signing and returning the permission form to the campus GT coordinator (counselor)
- Parent completes, signs, and returns an observation inventory
- Student's teachers complete an observation inventory
- Student completes a series of ability and achievement tests
  - Ability assessments measure reasoning skills with different types of verbal, quantitative, and/or non verbal questions

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## DO I NEED TO PREPARE MY STUDENT FOR THE ASSESSMENTS?

- No!
- However, the following can help strengthen any student's academics:
  - Read as much as possible as early as possible
  - Stop answering questions - help them think through problems and answer their own questions
  - Connect studies to your child's interests to keep them motivated

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## WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING STUDENTS FOR GT SERVICES?

- Data is shared with the GT Identification Committee
- Committee reviews quantitative and qualitative data to determine eligibility
- Parents are notified of the GT Identification Committee's decision
  - Kindergarten students will be identified by March 1<sup>st</sup>

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## WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT IF MY STUDENT MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED SERVICES?

- Kindergarten students will receive services starting on March 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year
- Students who meet criteria, in grades 1-11, will begin receiving G/T services in August of the upcoming school year

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## DO STUDENTS HAVE TO RE-QUALIFY FOR GT SERVICES EACH YEAR?

- No, a student that is identified as needing gifted and talented services will receive those services as long as they are enrolled in Barbers Hill ISD, or until their parent/guardian chooses for them to exit from the GT program

## WHAT IF MY STUDENT IS NOT IDENTIFIED THIS YEAR?

- Students can be referred for gifted and talented services every year
- It is not unusual for students (especially elementary) to test several times before qualifying

## BARBERS HILL ISD GT SERVICES





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## HOW ARE GT STUDENTS SERVED IN BARBERS HILL ISD IN THE ELEMENTARY GRADES?

- Cluster classes with GT certified teacher
  - Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) same as other grade level classes
- Different instructional strategies or outcomes (differentiation)
  - Open-ended products
  - Choice boards and menus
  - Enrichment centers
- Planned experiences
- Grade acceleration (Credit by Exam)
- UIL Academics competition
- Odyssey of the Mind competition

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## HOW ARE GT STUDENTS SERVED IN BARBERS HILL ISD AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOLS?

- Advanced coursework with GT certified teacher
  - Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) same as other grade level classes
- Math acceleration program
- Course acceleration (Credit by Exam)
- High School course offerings
- Duke Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP)
- Competitions, such as UIL Academics, Geography Bee, History Bee, essay contests, etc.
- Fine Arts contests and performances

## HOW ARE GT STUDENTS SERVED IN BARBERS HILL ISD AT THE HIGH SCHOOL?

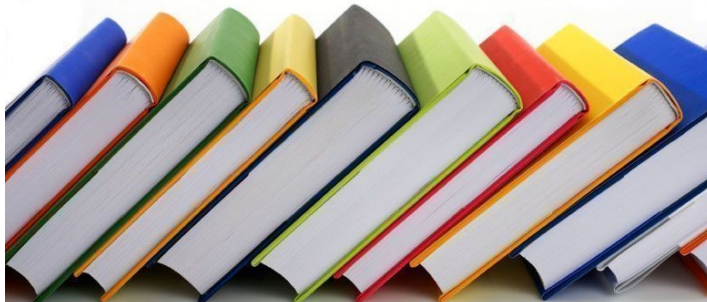
- Advanced coursework with GT certified teacher
  - Advanced Placement program
  - Dual Credit
  - University of Texas Dual Enrollment (OnRamps)
- Math acceleration program
- Course acceleration (Credit by Exam)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) course offerings
- Competitions, such as UIL Academics, Robotics, Academic Decathlon, etc.
- Fine Arts contests and performances

## GT TRANSFER PROCESS FOR STUDENTS NEW TO BARBERS HILL ISD

## WHAT IF MY STUDENT WAS SERVED AS GT IN ANOTHER DISTRICT?

- Each district sets their own qualifying criteria for placement in the Gifted and Talented program
- Please inform your student's campus that they received gifted and talented services in your previous district
- We will request a copy of all assessment data or the GT matrix form from the previous district
- The Barbers Hill ISD GT Transfer Committee will meet to review the data presented and make a determination of qualification

## GT RESOURCES



## BARBERS HILL ISD GT CONTACTS

- District GT Coordinator - Natasha Holden
- Early Childhood Center GT Coordinator - Cheryl Abshier
- Elementary School GT Coordinators - Nikki Juarez (ESN/ESS), Haley McWilliams (ESN), and Lori Meador (ESS)
- Middle School GT Coordinators - Christina Peterson (MSN) and Sarah Stone (MSS)
- High School GT Coordinators - Janci Alfaro (9<sup>th</sup>), Miki White (10<sup>th</sup>), Leah Veazey (11<sup>th</sup>), and Tiffany Guy (12<sup>th</sup>)

## BARBERS HILL ISD GT WEBSITE

[HOME](#) > [CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION](#) > [ADVANCED ACADEMICS](#) > [GIFTED AND TALENTED](#)

### Gifted and Talented

#### Gifted and Talented Nominations

Gifted and talented (GT) students are those identified as having a high level of intellectual ability by professionally qualified persons through a specified screening and selection process. These are children who require a differentiated program in order to realize their full potential.

Services for gifted/talented students in BHISD are comprehensive, structured, sequenced and appropriately challenging, including options in the four foundation curricular areas, arts, leadership and creativity.

#### Student Resources

- [Scholarship Links \(Google Doc\)](#)

#### Parent Resources

- [Gifted and Talented Plan for BHISD](#)
- [Texas Association for Gifted and Talented Website](#)
- [Helpful Ideas for Parents and Teachers Website](#)
- [48 links with essentials for parents of gifted students Website](#)
- [NAGC resources for parents Website](#)
- [Renzulli Center for Creativity Website](#)
- [Hoagies Page Gifted Ed Page Website](#)
- [Resources for Parents of Gifted Website](#)
- [Institute for Educational Advancement Website](#)

# QUESTIONS?



# THANK YOU!

If you have questions, please speak to one of the campus GT coordinators.