

# GT: 2nd 9 Weeks

A review of the 2nd 9 weeks in the 2022-2023 school year.

## GT Curriculum

### 1st: Storybook STEM

**I can connect literature to the world around me.**

Students explored STEM materials in relatively open-ended tasks to get used to building and working towards a goal independently and a common goal as a team. One example was when the classes read *The Night Before Christmas* and discussed asking questions, rhythm, measuring distance, and higher level vocabulary. Students were tasked with building a sleigh for Santa that featured the STEM vocabulary words push, kinetic energy, distance, and friction.

### 2nd: Cultures

**I can send a letter to someone outside of Texas.**

Students connected with someone outside of our state and sent a miniature version of themselves via the mail. The recipient took their mini me around their city and mailed back pictures of their adventures.

### 3rd: Genius Hour

**I can see the importance in planning before starting a project.**

Students determined their passion and are working on their pitch to present to the class. This project involves a lot of one-on-one conferences and are completely student driven.

### 4th: Great Chocolate Caper

**I can solve logic puzzles and syllogisms.**

**I can create generalizations and conclusions.**

**I can differentiate between useful facts and extraneous information.**

Students are working through the mystery of the stolen chocolate recipe. Once we are settled into our new classrooms, the students will be making their own chocolate bar!

### 5th: Stock Market

**I can understand the relative dollar value of \$100,000. I can practice consensus building.**

Students formed their teams for the upcoming Stock Market Game in which they'll be given \$100,000 of pretend money to invest in real companies.

### 6th: Debate

**I am able to understand both sides of an issue even though one side may conflict with my beliefs.**

Students worked through several different court cases to examine analysis from multiple perspectives and rulemaking. Additionally, we have seniors visiting giving mini lessons on public speaking.

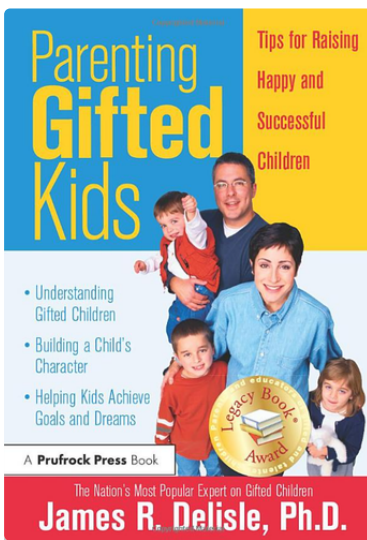
## SAVE THE DATE

Camp will take place on November 3-5 next year. We always struggle with chaperones and hope that camping Friday-Sunday will help with that. We are hoping to strategically fundraise to help lower the cost for participants as we do not want that to be a barrier to participation. See below in "GT in the Local News" for more information.



## GT Game Night

Game night was awesome! We had 48 attendees and over 25 games available to play. Some of the favorites were Guess Who, No Stress Chess, and Blokus.



## Parenting Gifted Kids: Tips for Raising Happy and Successful Children

Throughout this school year, I'm going to share my favorite pieces from this book. Most of these are direct quotes. If you're impatient and want to get through it quicker yourself, you're welcome to buy it on [Amazon](#). 😊

- In too many instances, the educational needs of gifted children are forgotten, as our collective emphasis in schools is not to measure how tall the tree is, but how tall the stump.
- If your child announces that boredom is an issue, ask for details. Is the work too easy? Too hard? Irrelevant to life outside of school? Not an area of personal interest? Once you have some specifics, ask, "If you could make this class better, what would you do?" If your child is unable or unwilling to pinpoint the direct causes of the boredom or its solution, present to him or her this reality, "I can only help you if you give me some examples- being bored is just too vague."

- These specific questions place the student in the driver's seat for their own learning and gives the teacher a road map to help the student reach an interesting destination.
- [Know the Jargon](#)
- There is strength in numbers. Parents of children with disabilities learned this long ago. Today, legislation is in place and budgets have swelled to make certain the special needs of kids with disabilities are addressed. Much of the reason behind this surge in special education is that parents rose up and said, collectively, "our children are not served well in the public schools, their civil rights are being violated, and you will do something about it." Funny thing...parents of gifted children could say the same things, but they often don't.
- "Oh! What a joy it must be to have a gifted child. You must be so thankful!" This lack of understanding about the specific needs of gifted children has probably caused more parents to keep their mouths closed than any other reason.
- Failure to help gifted children reach their potential is a societal tragedy, the extent of which is difficult to measure but which is surely great. How can we measure the loss of the sonata unwritten, the curative drug undiscovered, or the absence of political insight? These gifted students are a substantial part of the difference between what we are and what we could be as a society.

### [Baseball, the World Series... and Gifted Education](#)

Advocacy is important. I encourage all of you to be advocates for your child's education. It is beneficial for you to become familiar with the requirements that Texas has for gifted and talented programs. You can read about this in the [GT Texas State Plan](#). There are even GT Parent Conferences! Baylor has a [conference](#) (virtual) on February 11 and it is only \$45.

Additionally, we have a GT Task Force that meets quarterly. If you would like to be a part of this, please reach out to Alyssa Hanna via email: [ahanna@godleyisd.net](mailto:ahanna@godleyisd.net)

## GT in the LOCAL News

We just finished the referral and identification process for 1st-6th grade. We had 127 referred and 31 qualified. We are currently at 8% identification as a district, 10% at Legacy, 7% at RBG, 7% at PVES, and 10% at 6th/Middle School, and 7% at High School.



As we continue to grow, our needs grow. I would LOVE to form a group of parent volunteers. Specifically, parent volunteers who help organize **fundraisers** and **events** with us throughout the year. If this seems like something you would be interested in, email me: [ahanna@godleyisd.net](mailto:ahanna@godleyisd.net)



## GC4

We created an enrichment website to help entertain and challenge your kids. If you are looking for something fun but productive for them to do, have them explore the website's sections: Challenge, Create, Construct & Connect. [GC4](#)



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