



Spring 2025 HPAC Meeting

April 10, 2025

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
Office of Advanced Academics





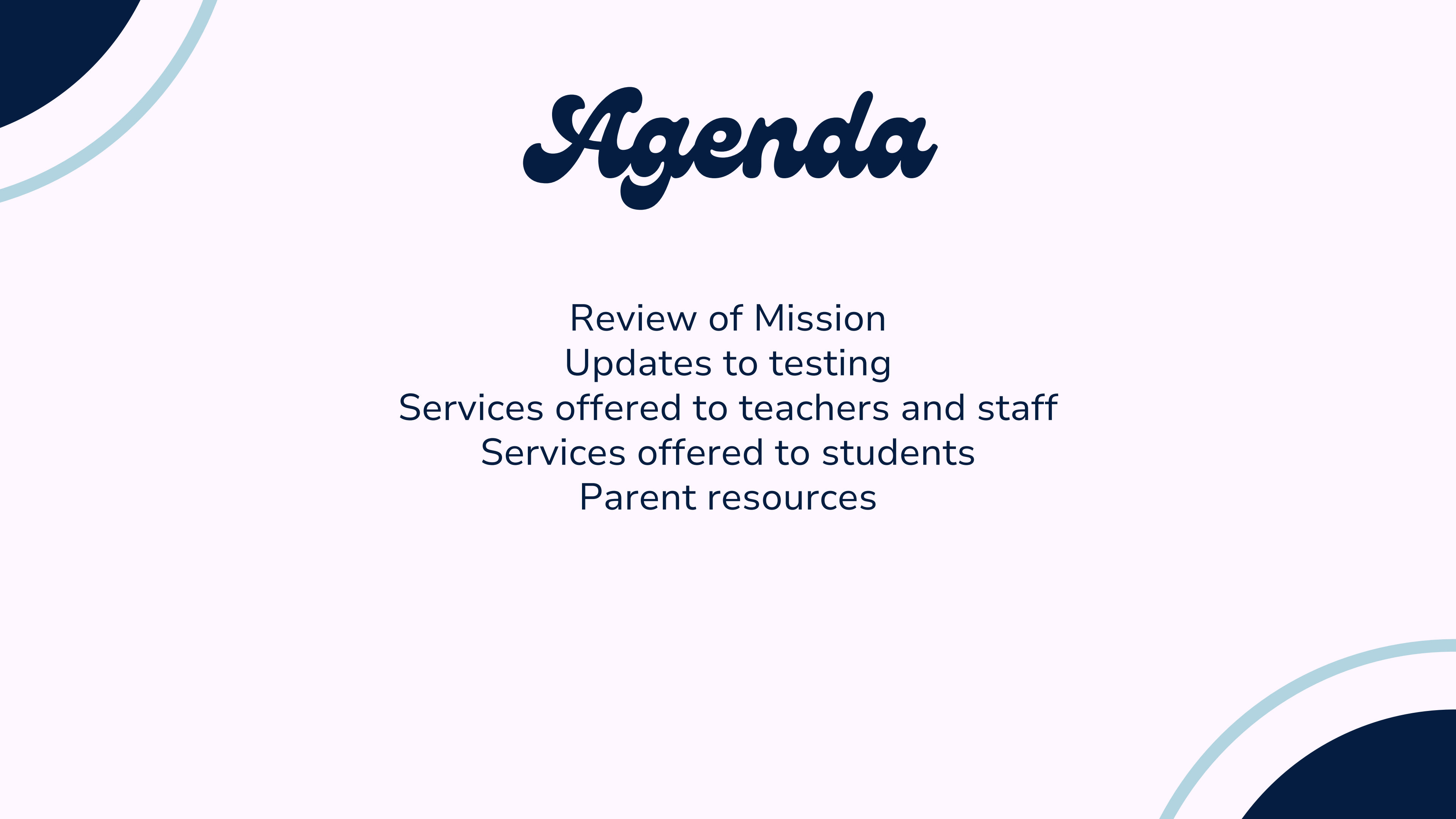
Introduction

Committee Facilitator:

Katrina Nelson, Director of Advanced Academics

Committee Coordinator:

Shane Vaul, Advanced Academics Coach



Agenda

Review of Mission
Updates to testing
Services offered to teachers and staff
Services offered to students
Parent resources



Our Mission

Serve the CFISD community as a resource to offer a forum for dialogue and dissemination of information regarding issues of interest for parents/guardians of students identified as gifted and talented.

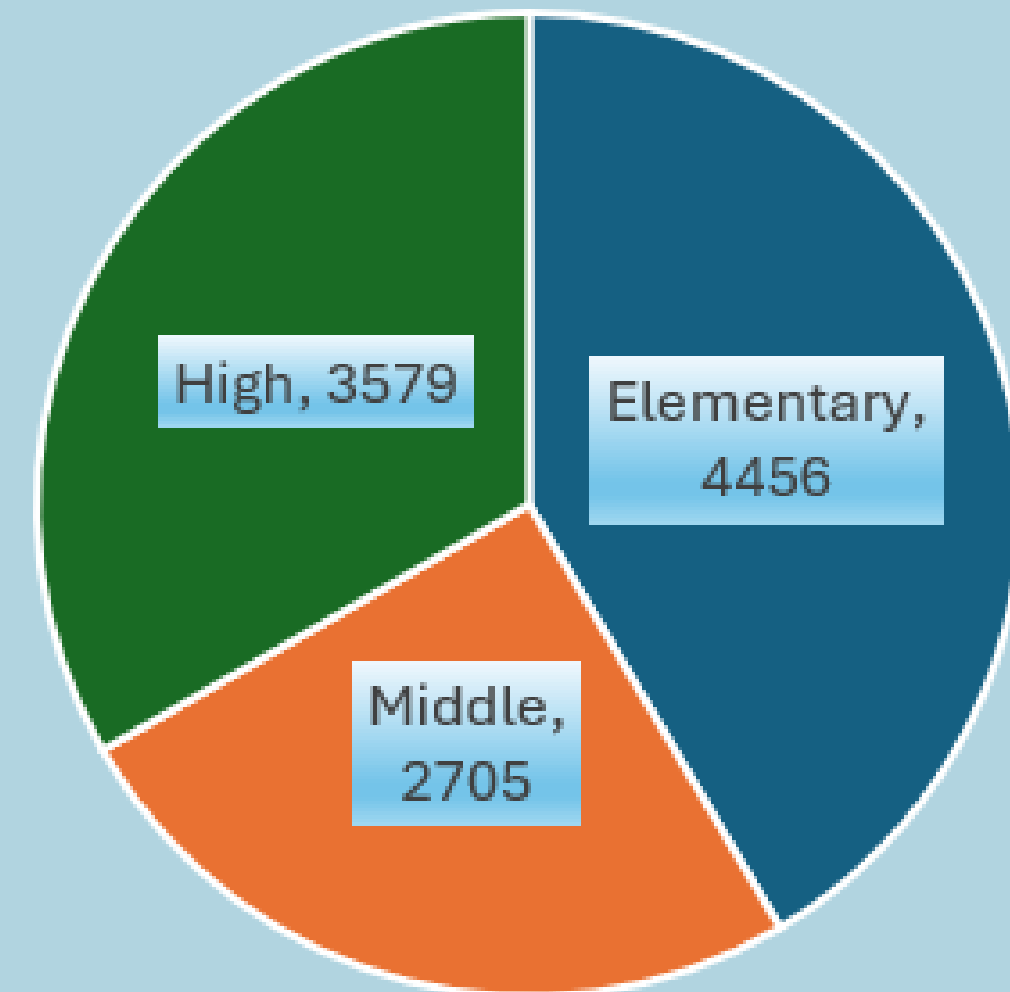
HORIZONS

by the numbers

91 Campuses

100% of campuses
have an active
HORIZONS program

We continue to see
an increase in
identified students
year after year



G/T Screening for 24/25

Fall Testing for appeals only was offered September 9 - 27th

Mid-Year Testing for grades 1-11 ran from January 13 -
February 13

We will continue to screen all CFISD kindergarten students using the
Scales for Identifying Gifted Students (SIGS) and MClass data

Parents **opt in** for G/T screening for grades 1-11

Parents **opt out** for kindergarten screening

Both options are located in Home Access Center

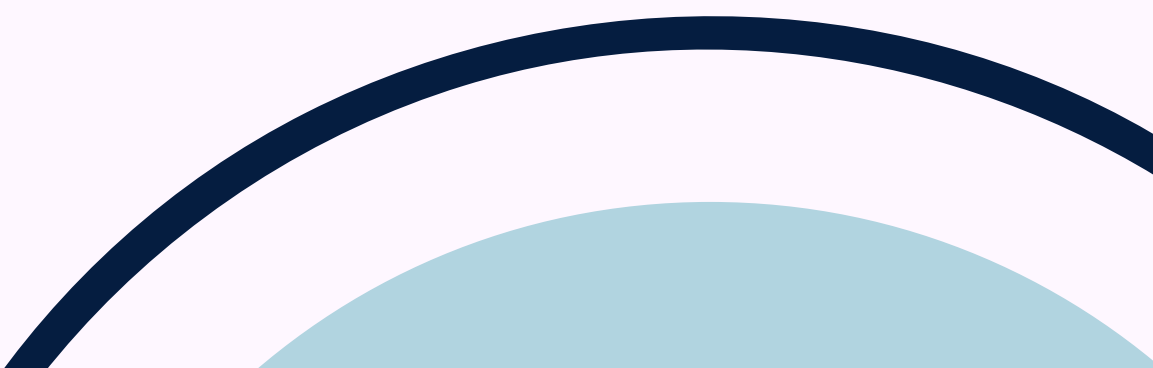


HORIZONS services in 24/25

We continue to follow an inclusion model for grades 1st-12th

Kindergarteners who are identified as GT begin receiving services March 1st via a pull-out model

Identified students are grouped with their HORIZONS-identified peers



HORIZONS services in 24/25

Teachers of HORIZONS classes receive training to serve gifted learners, including:

30 hours of
foundation training,
with a minimum of 6
hours in:

Curriculum and Instruction

Nature and Needs of Gifted
Students

Identification and Assessment of
Gifted Learners

Our in-district GT Staff Development Cadre offers over 40 courses throughout the school year and summer. These Cadre members range from classroom teachers to district support staff, offering a wide range of perspectives and guidance.

Campus support

Counselors and administrators who provide support for GT students receive specialized training

Teachers receive support from instructional and curriculum specialists at the district and campus level

Additional training of Identification and Assessment for kindergarten teachers is offered

Parent support

The Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) txgifted.org

CFISD's HORIZONS page offers resources and guidelines to help support GT students

Horizons Parent Advisory Committee (HPAC) meets twice yearly to convey information regarding activities and screening for the GT program

HORIZONS programs 24/25

CFISD's Gifted and Talented students are offered a wide range of opportunities to showcase their knowledge and skills

Examples of the many clubs and activities available:

HORIZONS Showcase

Da Vinci Day

Spelling Bee

Academic UIL

You Be the Chemist

EdTech Expo

Destination Imagination

Spanish and French Honor Society

Future Business Leaders of America

and many more



HORIZONS Showcase

An opportunity for schools to come together and participate in all the great things GT students are doing

Cy-Ridge along with Truitt, Campbell, and Dean Middle Schools, and Kirk, Willbern, Holbrook, and Francone Elementary Schools held their annual showcase on November 14th.

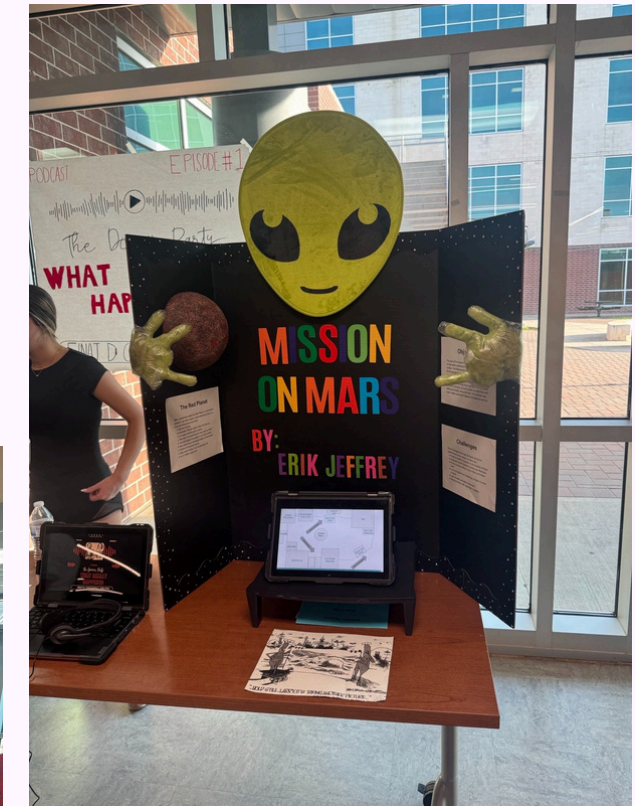
Cy-Springs along with Hopper and Anthony Middle Schools, and Andre, Byrd, Duryea, Jowell, Postma, and Rennell Elementary Schools held their annual showcase on February 5th.

Bridgeland along with Salyards and Sprague Middle Schools, and Ault, Keith, McGown, Pope, Swenke, and Wells Elementary Schools held their annual showcase on March 25th.

Several more campuses have an in-person GT Showcase scheduled for later in the year.

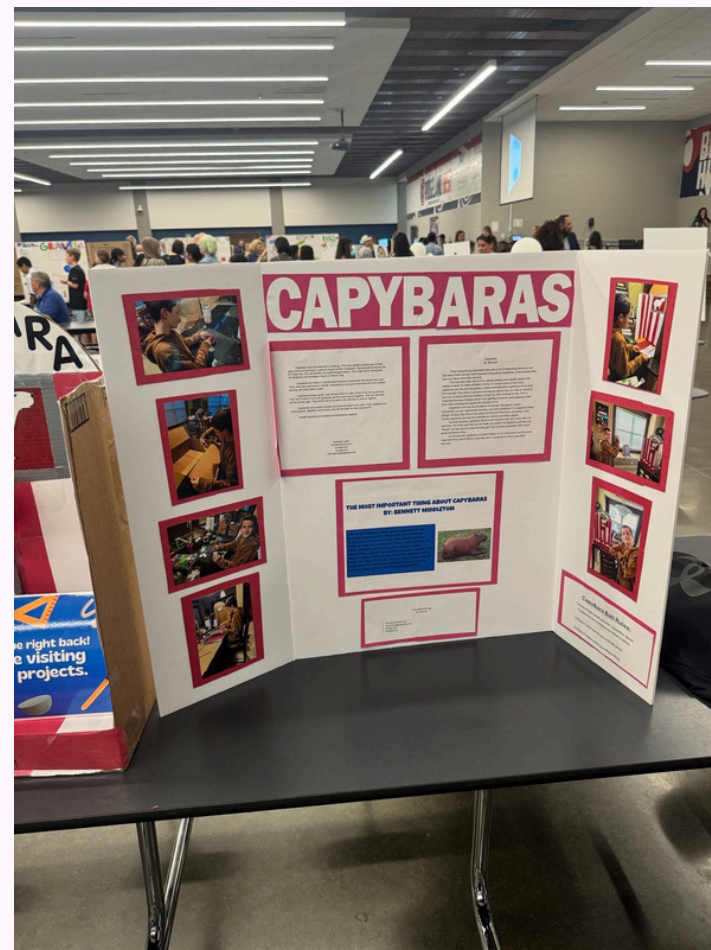
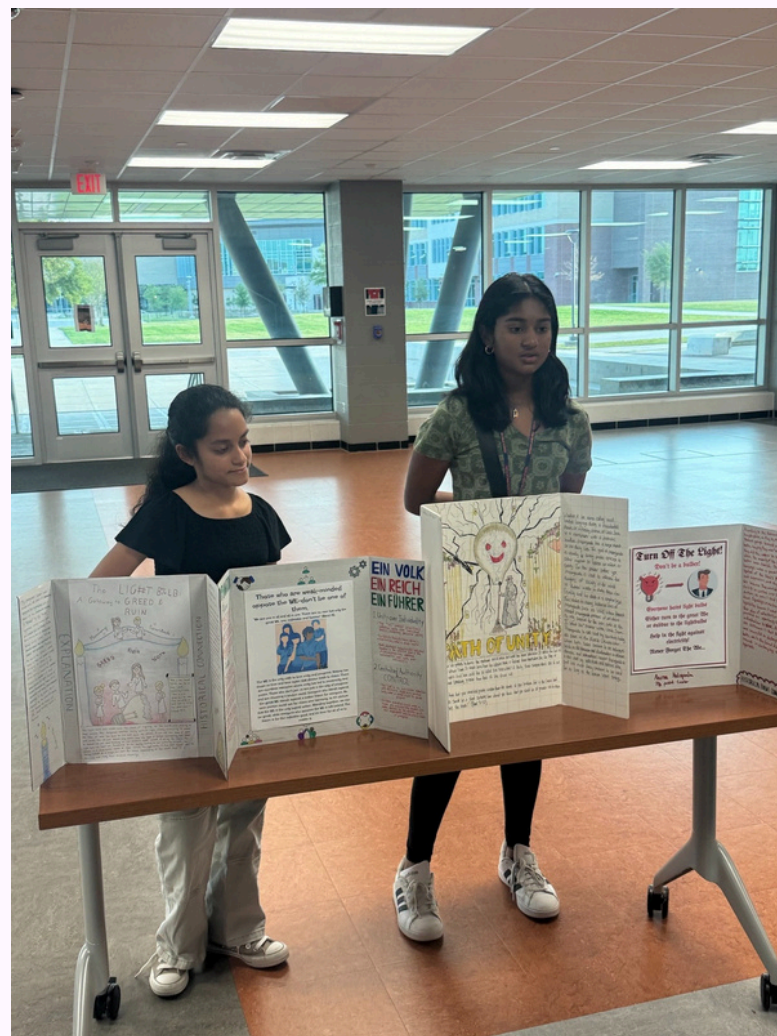
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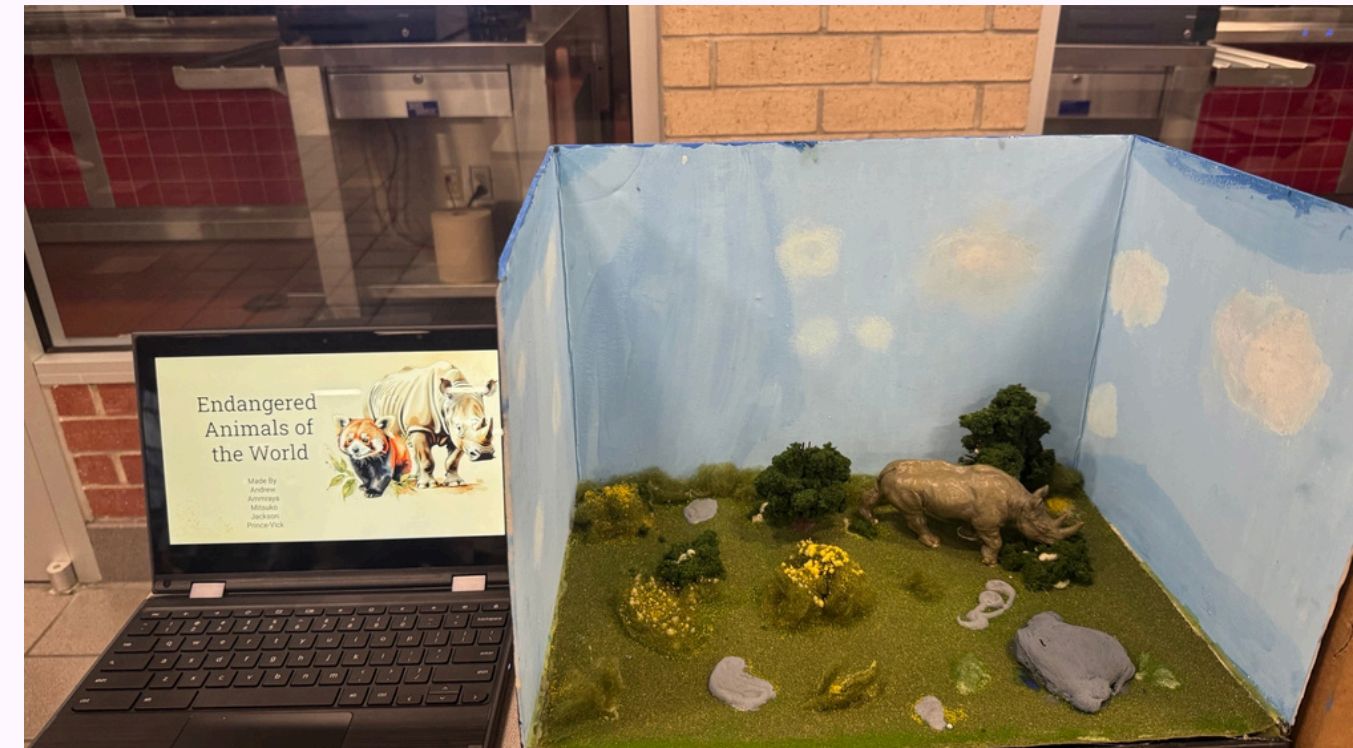
HORRORS Showcase

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HORIZONS Showcase

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2020-2021 Showcase-Virtual



An opportunity for every CFISD campus to create a presentation and have it showcased on the district's website.

Showcase goes live on April 15th

Destination Imagination



Took place February 15th with 61 CFISD teams competing in the competition.

Of the 61 competing CFISD teams, 17 teams advanced to the Lone Star Finals, which took place March 29th.

6 CFISD teams have advanced to the Global Tournament taking place in Kansas City, Missouri.



Destination Imagination

The 6 Global Tournament teams from CFISD:

Rockstars- Rennell Elementary

Ideas R Us- Warner Elementary

Mystic Minds- Bridgeland High School

Cypress Problem Solvers-Sprague Middle School

Team Ask Me- Cy Ranch High School

The Creation Crew- Smith Middle School

Destination Imagination



Da Vinci Day 2025

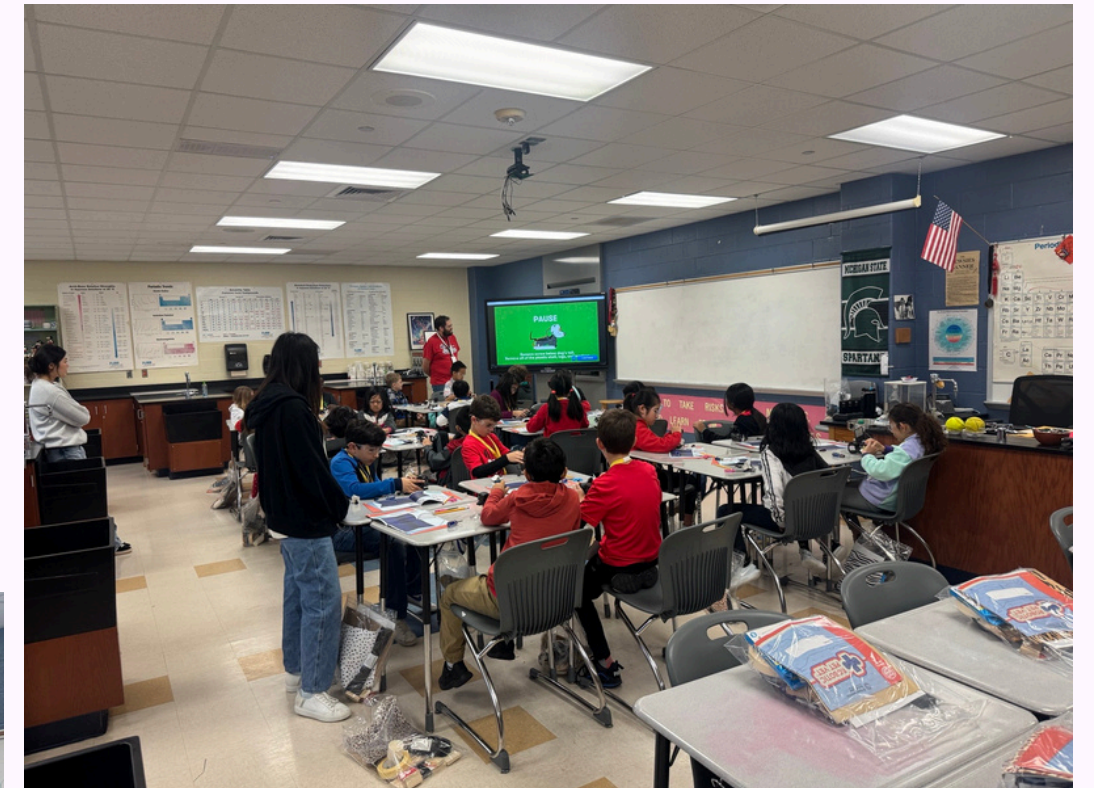
Students in grades 3-5 attended a STEM workshop at Cy-Ranch High School on February 15th.

Their activity included dissecting and rebuilding a mechanical dog where they learned important tools and tips to aid in the world of robotics.



Da Vinci Day 2025

Students in grades 3-5 attended a STEM workshop at Cy-Ranch High School



Da Vinci Day 2025

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Student Summer Opportunities

National Inventors Hall of Fame
invent.org

Houston Museum of Natural Science
hmns.org

[Rice University Summer Youth Activity Program](#)
[Rice University](#)

[University of Houston STEM Summer Camps](#)

Parent Resources

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented
(TAGT) txgifted.org

*Useful tools and
tips to advocate
and support GT
students*

*TAGT hosts
webinars and in-
person conferences
with an emphasis
on GT*

*For more
information please
visit their website*

Additional Parent Resources

National Association for Gifted Children
nagc.org

Gifted Support Network
giftedsupportnetwork.org

TEA Equity In Gifted/Talented Education
gtequity.tea.texas.gov

[CFISD HORIZONS Gifted and Talented Website](#)

Future G/T Funding

There are currently two bills in the Texas Legislature aimed at increasing the funding school districts receive for Gifted and Talented student enrollment.

Current funding for GT students is capped at 5% of total enrollment. Here in CFISD we are closer to 8%, indicating a gap in state funding.

The bills pending in the State Legislature aim to increase the funding for GT students from 5% to 10% of enrollment.

[TAGT Article on GT Funding](#)

Thank You

Questions?



