



For Immediate Release

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January 23, 2023

FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
GATE Academies Cultivate Creative Connections

(Fullerton, CA) – Hermosa Drive School is the host site for this year's GATE Talent Academies. The focus of these GATE Talent Academies is Cultivating Creative Connections through fostering creativity, problem solving, and developing talent. These Academies are designed to enhance the FSD GATE learning experience through targeted student-interest based academies. Each Academy is led by a team of FSD educational experts (including district staff and FSD teachers) and field specialists who bring a unique lens to the learning environment. The January GATE Talent Academy filled to capacity and focused on Building the Best to create an ideal community.

The 100 participants who were lucky enough to be selected through a lottery to attend the January GATE Talent Academy were able to learn more about what goes into an ideal community. The students brainstormed what makes up an ideal community, what components, structures, and people are important to include, and then they created visual representations of their community. The students shared that they really love being with their GATE peers from across the district where they feel a connection to each other. One of the teachers shared that she sees that when the GATE students collaborate, their ideas are validated, they are connected, and they feel less alone or isolated. Past GATE Talent Academies focused on identity in the community and the impact of communication and the use of arts to better understand your inner-self.

The next GATE Talent Academy is on March 4, 2023 and will focus on Community Design. Lottery registration for this Academy opens on February 21, 2023. The GATE Talent Academies, Cultivating Creative Connections, are open to FSD GATE students in third through eighth grades. More information is available on the FSD website at <http://bit.ly/GATEAcademies>. Each session focuses on a different area, so be sure to sign up before space fills up and to sign up for all Academies in the series.

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves over 11,600 students in grades TK – 8th. The Fullerton School District includes 21 schools, 15 elementary schools, two K-8th grade schools, three middle schools, and a distance learning and home school model. The

mission of the Fullerton School District is to work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, “*Great Schools - Successful Kids*” exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit www.fullertonsd.org.

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*For more information, please feel free to contact Trish Chiles /GATE Program Coordinator
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