BARBERS HILL
Independent School District

GIFTED AND TALENTED PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

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Barbers Hill ISD

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

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 2nd 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

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

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

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 1st

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

- Kindergarten students will receive services starting on March 1st 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

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



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
- Other Academic competitions
- Essay or poetry contests

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
- Baylor Talent Identification Program (Baylor 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?

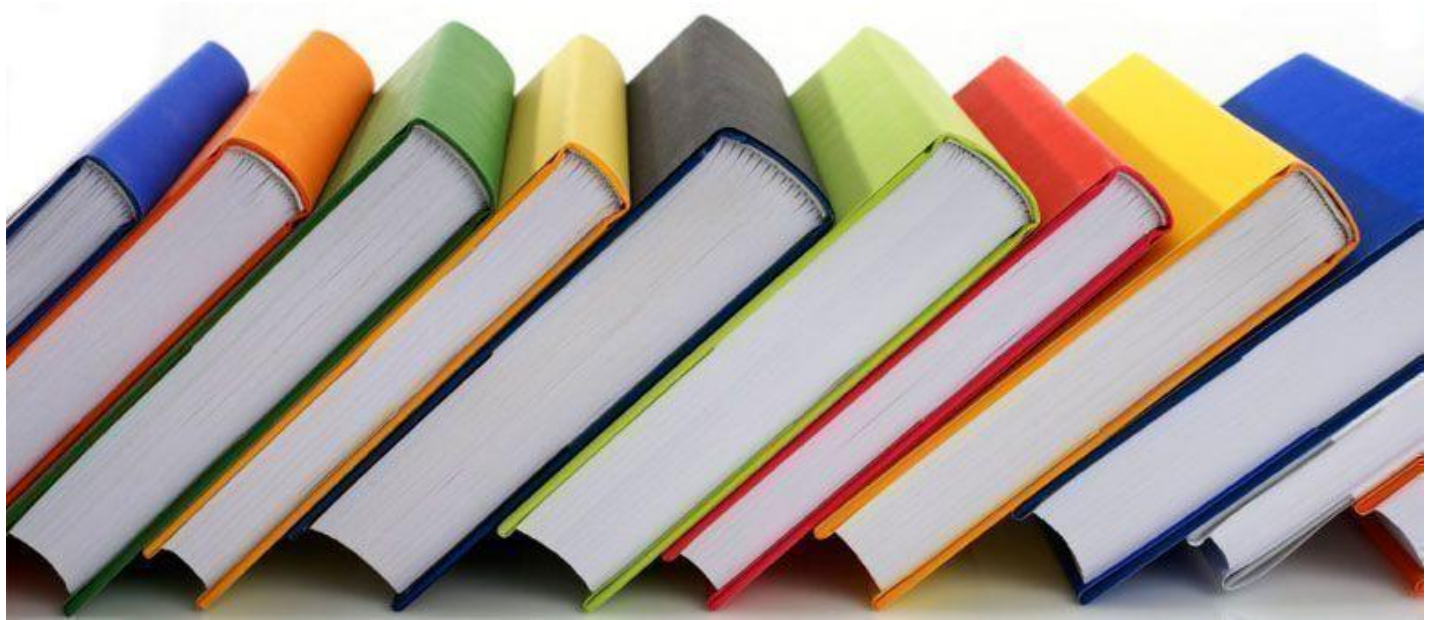
- Advanced coursework with GT certified teacher
  - Advanced Placement program
  - Dual Credit
  - University of Texas Dual Enrollment (OnRamps)
- Math acceleration program
- Course acceleration (Credit by Exam)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) course offerings
- Competitions, such as UIL Academics,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

Student Resources

Code.org
Ken Ken Puzzle
Khan Academy
Mensa For Kids
You CAN Do the Rubik's Cube
Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) Scholarships

Educator Resources

Texas Performance Standards Project
Stories with Holes
Prufrock Press
Routledge
Gifted and Talented Supplemental (162) Certification
University of North Texas G/T Graduate Studies
TAGT OnDemand
University of Texas High School Online G/T Professional Development

Parent Resources

Texas Education Agency Gifted and Talented
Texas Association for Gifted and Talented (TAGT)
TAGT Parent Webinars
National Association for Gifted Children
Hoagies' Gifted Education Page
18 Resources for the Parents of Gifted Students
Top Summer Camps for Gifted Children
Space Camp
Educational Enrichment Programs
Lamar University Texas Academy

QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!

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