TAYLOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# GT Program & Nomination Process

PARENT INFORMATION 2024-2025





# Gifted and Talented Definition & Characteristics



# Texas Definition of Gifted & Talented

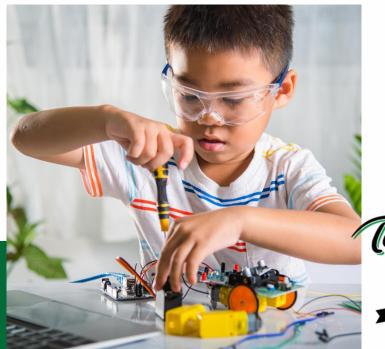
A child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

- exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area
- possesses an unusual capacity for <u>leadership</u>
- excels in a specific academic field











# Common Characteristics of Gifted Students



- Advanced problem-solving abilities
- Rapid retention of new information
- Extensive vocabulary
- Good memory
- Tends towards perfectionism
- High energy
- Prefers older students and adults
- Wide-ranging interests
- Interested in experimentation and exploration
- Unusual sense of humor
- Insatiable curiosity and persistence

- Intense concentration
- Perseverance in area(s) of interest
- May question authority
- Advanced sense of justice and fairness
- Shows concern about the world
- Perceives abstract ideas
- Understands complex concepts
- Sees relationships
- May exhibit intense physical or emotional sensitivity
- Creative/Outside the box thinking

### **CHARACTERISTICS**

THAT MAY INDICATE A NEED FOR GIFTED SERVICES

























#### **ENERGY**

#### **INTENSITY**

### PROBLEM SOLVING



SEEN AS A RISK TAKER 1

**TALKS RAPIDLY** 



CAN IDENTIFY THE REASONS SOMETHING HAPPENED

DISPLAYS AN ADVENTUROUS PERSONALITY

IS OFTEN
POPULAR WITH
PEERS

CAN BECOME ABSORBED IN ACTIVITIES INTERRUPTS
OTHERS DUE TO
EXCITEMENT

SEES THE BIG

NOTICES HOW THINGS ARE ALIKE OR DIFFERENT

MAY BE THE LEADER OF MANY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

APPEARS TO BE TIRELESS

MAY HAVE A
NERVOUS HABIT,
SUCH AS
TAPPING A PEN

QUICK TO GRAB NEW IDEAS IN GREAT DETAIL

The high-intensity child has a unique ability to focus deeply and concentrate for long periods of time. Some children show more emotional extremes like joy one minute, sadness the next or they may be impatient waiting for others to catch up. A high intensity child may have trouble calming their mind down and often needs less sleep. The same child may also develop stronger attachments to people, places and objects.

COMES UP WITH
A LARGE
NUMBER OF
IDEAS AS
POSSIBLE
SOLUTIONS

MAKES LOGICAL AND COMMON SENSE ANSWERS

Having a child who never seems to sit still may be frustrating at times, but that energy may indicate special learning needs and abilities. A high-energy child may seem to possess more mental and physical stamina than their peers. The same child may also be well-coordinated and enjoy a variety of games and sports.

concentrate for long periods of time. So emotional extremes like joy one minute, may be impatient waiting for others to child may have trouble calming their minutes less sleep. The same child may also developed.

A child may possess the ability to solve problems easily. A child with good problem-solving abilities will sometimes tackle questions or problems that seem complicated or beyond their agelevel.



### REASONING ABILITY



CAN MAKE GENERALIZATIONS

CAN THINK
THINGS THROUGH
& COME UP WITH A
REASONABLE
ANSWER

CAN SEE A BETTER
WAY OF DOING
THINGS

THINKS IN A LOGICAL MANNER

MAY BE STUBBORN

Some children display more logical approaches to figuring out solutions. They are able to think through things in a controlled way using intentional thinking with a goal in mind.

#### **CURIOSITY**



HAS A GOOD
DEAL OF
"INTELLECTUAL
PLAYFULNESS"
-COLORFUL
STORIES,
IMAGINARY
PLAYMATES

STARTS
QUESTIONS WITH
"I WONDER..." OR
"I WONDER WHAT
WOULD HAPPEN
IF..."

MANIPULATES, CHANGES, & ELABORATES ON IDEAS

ADAPTS,
IMPROVES, &
MODIFIES
ENVIRONMENT &
OBJECTS

ASKS QUESTIONS
CONSTANTLY
ABOUT ANYTHING
& EVERYTHING

Most children are curious about their environments, but some are more so than others. Curiosity can sometimes get a child in trouble, like when they take something apart just to see how it works. The constant questions of a curious child can be frustrating for adults, but may still be worth noticing.

#### **HUMOR**



UNDERSTANDS A RANGE OF EMOTIONS

SEES UNUSUAL
RELATIONSHIPS ENJOYS WORD
GAMES & PUNS,
EXPRESSIVE
STORY TELLING

HAS A COMPLEX SENSE OF HUMOR

MANIPULATES & PLAYS WITH WORDS

UNDERSTANDS AND USES SARCASM

Some children are more quick witted, displaying a sense of humor that reveals their ability to interpret everyday experiences in a different way than age-peers or even older children. Due to their extensive knowledge base, they may recognize and appreciate adult humor and demonstrate skill in bringing unrelated ideas together in a recognizable relationship.



#### **INSIGHT**



SEES UNUSUAL CONNECTIONS

REACTS MORE QUICKLY TO NEW SITUATIONS SHOWS FLEXIBILITY IN THINKING

INTEGRATES
IDEAS &
DISCIPLINES

TAKES CUES
FROM BEHAVIORS
OF OTHERS

Some children are able to grasp new concepts more quickly than their peers. They are able to make connections between things that others may not see and apply them to new or novel situations. They may also recognize deeper meanings of words, actions, and theories.

#### **PERSISTENCE**



EASILY BORED WITH ROUTINE WORK

MAY BE FOCUSED
ON
PERFECTIONISM

MAY BE SELF CRITICAL &
DISSATISFIED WITH
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CONTINUES
WITH TASKS
WHEN OTHERS
MAY QUIT

POSSESSES A
POSITIVE,
CAN - DO
ATTITUDE

Some children have difficulty moving on to other things from specific problems, tasks, or topics until they feel satisfied they have solved the puzzle or found an answer. They may have collections, draw pictures with many careful details, or maintain a long-term interest in a specific topic, task, or activity.





# What is gifted?

Differences between gifted learners and high achievers

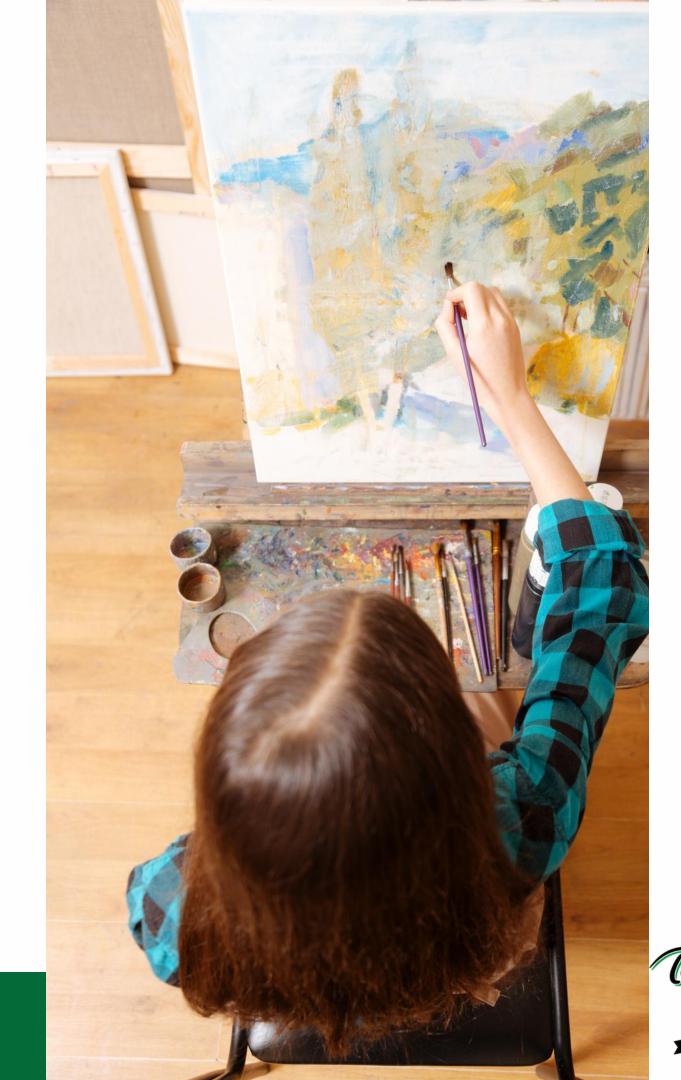


#### A BRIGHT CHILD...

- knows the answers
- is interested
- is attentive
- has good ideas
- works hard
- answers the questions
- top group
- listens with interest
- leams with ease
- 6-8 repetitions for mastery
- understands ideas
- enjoys peers
- grasps the meaning
- completes assignments
- is receptive
- copies accurately
- enjoys school
- absorbs information
- technician
- good memorizer

#### A GIFTED LEARNER...

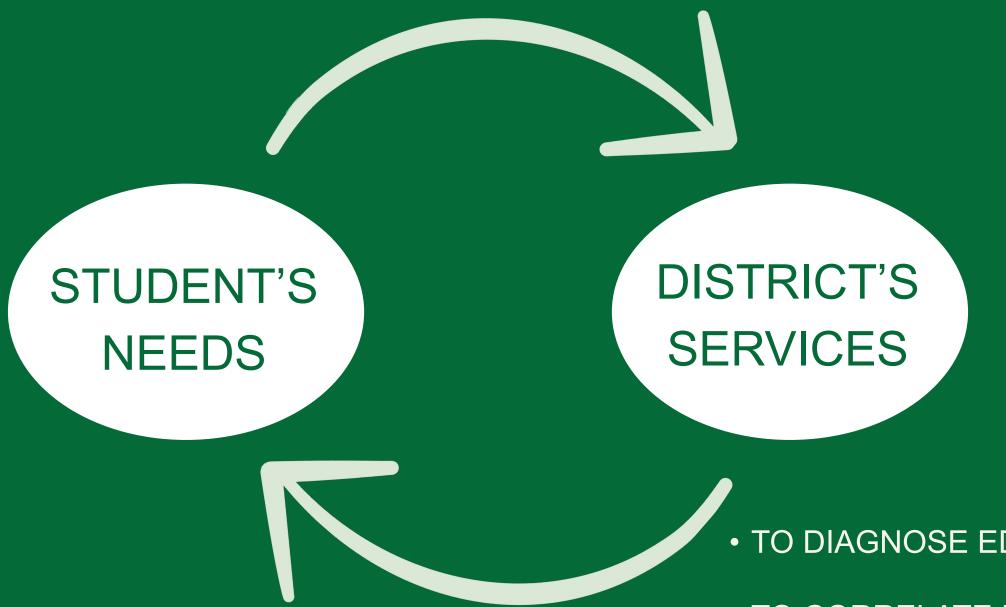
- asks the questions
- is highly curious
- is mentally and physically involved
- has wild, silly ideas
- plays around, yet tests well
- discusses in detail, elaborates
- beyond the group
- shows strong feeling and opinions
- already knows
- 1-2 repetitions for mastery
- constructs abstractions
- prefers adults
- draws inferences
- initiates projects
- is intense
- creates a new design
- enjoys learning
- manipulates information
- inventor
- good guesser







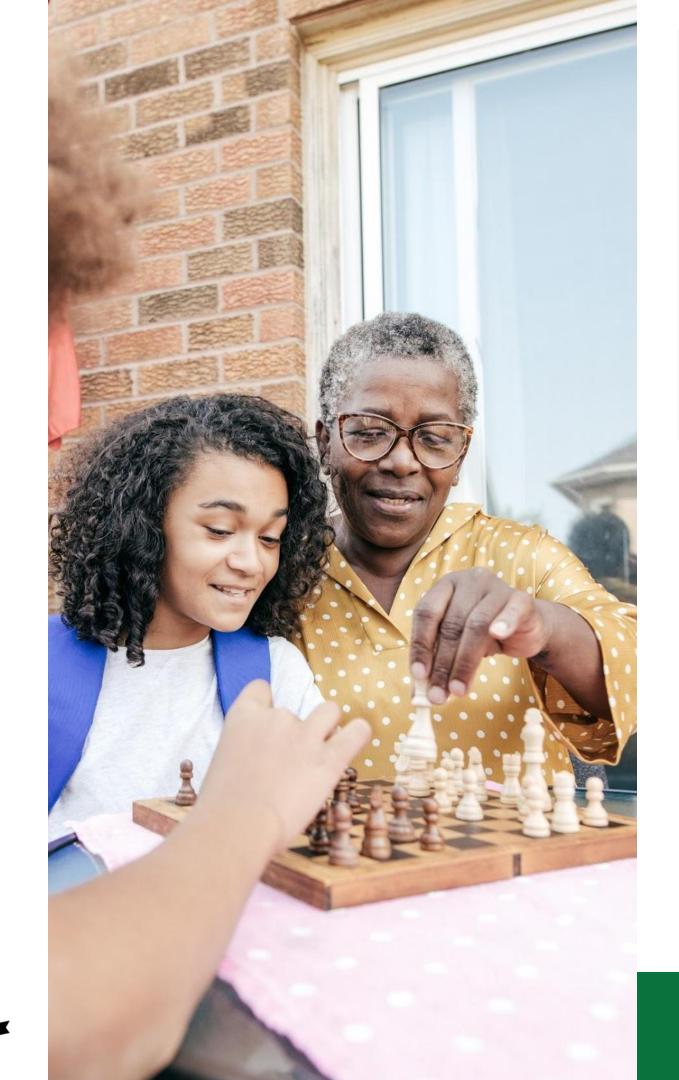
# Purpose of Identification





- TO CORRELATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
- TO MEET A STUDENT'S INDIVIDUAL NEEDS
- \*\*NOT TO LABEL











# What happens AFTER a student is nominated for GT screening?

- Parent/Guardian completes permission to screen.
- Parent will receive parent input forms.
- Screening takes place (qualitative and quantitative measures)
- Determination through committee and scoring.
- Communication sent to parent/guardian with committee's determination.





# GT Services



# TISD's Program of GT Services & Supports



#### **ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- Pull-out program provided by a GT-certified staff member on campus
- Each campus serves GT students according to campus schedules
- GT services are aligned to the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills) and state expectations

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

- Pull-out program provided by a GT-certified staff member on campus
- Scheduled in Honors Classes
- Each campus serves GT students according to campus schedules
- GT services are aligned to the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) and state expectations

# Campus Contacts

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