



# VIDOR ISD GIFTED AND TALENTED AWARENESS SESSION

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January 15, 2020

THIS PRESENTATION WILL BE  
POSTED ON THE DISTRICT  
WEBSITE:  
**WWW.VIDORISD.ORG**



Under the "for Parents" section on the homepage

# AGENDA

- Welcome
- What Does Being Gifted and Talented Mean?
- Characteristics of a Gifted Child
- Overview of Gifted Program Services
- Screening/Identification Process
- How to Refer Your Child
- Completing the Parent Checklist
- Questions & Answers



**What is Gifted?**



**What is the process for GT nomination and assessment?**

# TEXAS STATE DEFINITION OF GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENTS

The Texas Gifted and Talented State Plan, “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

Source: TEA, Texas State Plan and Guidelines for the Education of the Gifted/Talented, Austin, TX



# CHARACTERISTICS OF A GIFTED CHILD

High Achiever	Gifted Learner
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knows the answers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asks unforeseen questions</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learns with ease</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Already knows</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completes assignment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initiates projects</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoys school</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoys self-directed learning</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Absorbs information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manipulates information</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is interested</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is curious</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pleased with own learning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highly self-critical</li></ul>

- 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.

# ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL GT PROGRAM K-6

- GT/Talent Pool Class-Identified GT students are in a classroom with high achiever students
- The classroom teacher is GT trained (K-1, 2-4 Math and Reading, 5-6 All subjects)
- Focus on general intellectual ability
- Learning experiences that lead to the development of advanced level products and performances
- Opportunities to accelerate in areas of strength, while working with others or independently

# VJHS & VHS

- GT trained teachers in all advanced level courses grades 7-12.
- Grades 7-8: Identified GT students have Honors classes available in math, science, ELAR, and social studies
- Grades 9-12: Pre-AP, AP, Dual-credit courses are available to GT identified students
- Learning experiences that lead to the development of advanced level products and performances
- Opportunities to accelerate in areas of strength, while working with others or independently



UIL ACADEMIC  
COMPETITIONS

ROBOTICS  
COMPETITIONS

CHALLENGE  
COMPETITIONS

ARE THERE  
ADDITIONAL  
LEARNING  
OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE TO  
G/T STUDENTS  
OUTSIDE OF  
THE REGULAR  
ACADEMIC  
DAY?



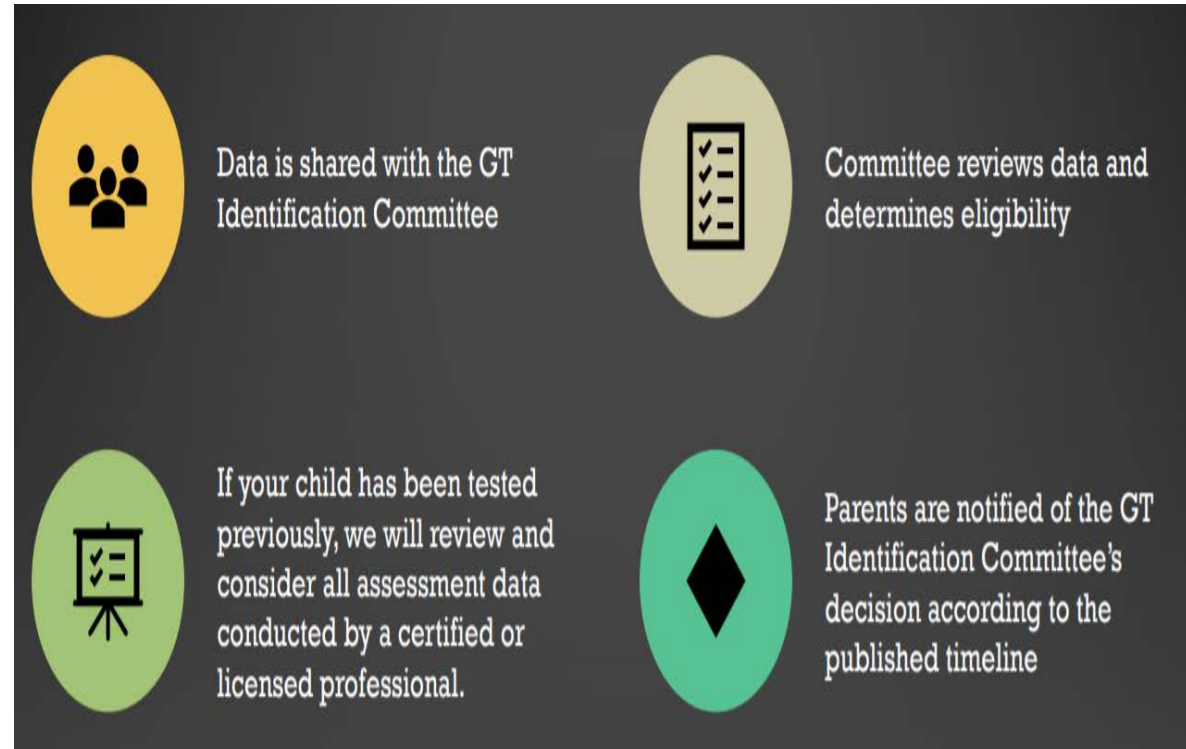
# VIDOR ISD GIFTED AND TALENTED IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES

- Multiple criteria must be considered.
- QUALITATIVE measures: Parent checklist, classroom observation
- QUANTITATIVE measures: Ability test scores (normed by age), Achievement test scores (normed by grade level)
- A minimum of three criteria measures are used to assess and identify a student for GT.



# HOW TO REFER YOUR CHILD

- Pick up and complete the appropriate Parent Checklist from the campus or print it from the Vidor ISD website, [www.vidorisd.org](http://www.vidorisd.org)
- Return the form to the campus office or the Vidor ISD Annex by the deadline indicated.
  - ➔ Kindergarten-January 31
  - ➔ 1<sup>st</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grades-April 3
- The signature on the Parent Checklist is the first step in the screening process, and authorizes the district to screen the child for the GT program and serve the child in the program if identified.
- Testing takes place at each campus during the school day. Parents of elementary students receive notice of the general testing window.



# GIFTED AND TALENTED PLACEMENT DECISIONS

- Gifted/Talented Committee meets to evaluate indicators and determine appropriate placement.
- The committee is made up of members all trained in Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented students.
- No single indicator guarantees acceptance or non-acceptance.
- Parents are notified of the decision by US mail of the decision.
- The district has a process for filing formal concerns regarding placement decisions.
- Screening occurs in Kindergarten, and 4<sup>th</sup> grade each year.

# FAQ

- **What if I disagree with the placement decision?** Contact the district GT coordinator within 10 school days of receiving your notification letter.
- **Can my child leave the program?** Yes; procedures are in place to exit or furlough (temporary exit) a student.
- **What if we move to a different elementary school in the district?** Students identified for the VISD program at one campus will join the program at the new campus.
- **Who do I contact with questions?** The GT coordinator for the district, located at the Vidor ISD Annex, 200 S. Archie St. 409-951-8706.

# GT LINKS

- [www.vidorisd.org](http://www.vidorisd.org)
  - DEPARTMENTS/INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES/SPECIAL PROGRAMS/GT
- [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)
- [www.txgifted.org](http://www.txgifted.org)
  - Texas Association of Gifted and Talented
  - National Association of Gifted and Talented