

**PALERMO
UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**GATED AND TALENTED EDUCATION PROGRAM
GATED**

Board Approved

9-10-03

PROGRAM GOAL

To identify gifted and talented students, including those from diverse racial, socioeconomic, linguistic, and cultural backgrounds, and to provide high-quality differentiated opportunities for learning that meets students' abilities and talents

STANDARDS ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

I – GATE 1: The quality of gifted programs meets the specific needs and requirements as specified in EC 52200© of gifted and talented students. Academic components shall be included in all program offerings.

Students shall receive an appropriately differentiated curriculum, which may be offered through part-time grouping, clustering, or supplemental services such as acceleration or enrichment. Challenging opportunities will be available for students whose demonstrated abilities exceed the content of the differentiated curriculum. Student achievement data will be collected for program development, implementation, and evaluation.

TEACHING & LEARNING

II – GATE 2: The district GATE program provides differentiated curriculum varied learning opportunities and environments based on the assessed needs of identified students that extend students' abilities, sensitivities, judgement, thinking skills, and self concepts.

Objectives will be implemented as described in the Single School Plan for Student Achievement: Students' needs are the basis for program planning. Social and emotional needs of gifted students are addressed. Teaching strategies are appropriate for meeting identified unique needs of gifted students. The core curriculum is expanded to accelerate pacing and adds levels of complexity, depth, and novelty. Students with above grade-level achievement in English/language arts and mathematics are provided with challenging assignments as evidenced in lesson plans.

OPPORTUNITY (EQUAL EDUCATION ACCESS)

III – GATE 3: The district's identification criteria and procedures include a comprehensive evaluation of each referred student's abilities resulting in the full participation of gifted and talented students from varying economic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.

The process of identification ensures that students in the district have equal access to screening and referral. Students are referred for identification from all schools and from all ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic groups. The identification process provides a comprehensive evaluation of the student. Decisions are not based on a single test score. All students have access to the programs that are most appropriate for the

students' abilities, interests, and needs regardless of the grade at which formal identification occur.

IDENTIFICATION

OVERALL HIGH ACHIEVEMENT AND SPECIFIC ACADEMIC K-8

To be identified for both categories of Overall High Achievement and Specific Academic, a student must meet the criteria as outlined in the Gifted and Talented Education Program Identification Checklist:

1. A total of 15 POINTS on the GATE WEIGHTED SCORING SYSTEM
2. Parent/Guardian's Recommendation and Commitment of Support
3. Student Commitment of Cooperation, Participation and Attendance
4. Student's signature on "Parent/Guardian and Student GATE Program Nomination **Commitment**" form.
5. Teacher Recommendation
6. Optional: Student Study Team Placement:

If a student does not meet all the criteria above, the student may be placed in the GATE Program by the School's Student Study Team with the approval of the Principal and the **GATE Coordinator**.

VISUAL ARTS 4-8

Talent Identification

To qualify for the Visual Arts GATE program; recommendations of eligibility must be made by the Student Study Team based on evaluation of the student's visual arts demonstration;

AND

Above-average overall rating on talent indicators for the student's ability in visual arts;

AND

Recommendations by teachers verifying the degree of excellence, i.e., demonstrations of student work with teacher's commentary;

AND

Documentation of outstanding ability or the potential for such ability as evidenced by student interest inventory.

PERFORMING ARTS 4-8

Talent Identification

To qualify for the Performing Arts GATE program; recommendations of eligibility must be made by the Student Study Team based on an evaluation of the student's performing arts demonstration;

AND

Above-average overall rating on talent indicators for the student's ability in performing arts;

AND

Recommendations by teachers verifying the degree of excellence, i.e., demonstrations of student's work with teacher's commentary;

AND

Documentation of outstanding ability or the potential for such ability as evidenced by student interest inventory.

Identification Processes and Procedures

The following steps are followed in identification and enrolling of students in GATE programs:

1. For academic identification, students will be assessed in 4th and 6th grade based on 3rd and 5th grade academic performance.
2. Student Study Team meetings may be held if requested by a teacher, administrator, or parent/guardian for applicants who do not meet all the GATE academic identification criteria.
3. For visual arts and talent identification, students will be assessed on an ongoing basis. Student Study Team meetings will be held
4. Parents/guardians will be notified regarding GATE Program qualifications and all decisions regarding their children.

Previously Enrolled Students

1. Once a student qualifies for GATE, he/she will remain in GATE.

Special Report

Efforts are made to ensure that students from varying cultural backgrounds and economically disadvantaged situations will be provided opportunities for full participation in the GATE Program.

In the identification process there is an alternate method for student identification which includes "situational identification and provisional placement of students" for students in

grades 1-8. The Student Study Team may include the student's parent/guardian, GATE and/or classroom teacher(s), appropriate support staff, the school psychologist, the GATE Coordinator, and the school principal.

Goals and Objectives

GOAL: The students will be challenged to explore areas of study which cut across the curriculum.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Develop thinking skills.
2. Develop problem-solving skills.
3. Develop research techniques including the use of technology and computer networking.
4. Process information, interpret information and present information.
5. Articulate written and oral reports using a variety of media and technology.
6. Demonstrate and apply mathematics in finding solutions and possible answers to problems.
7. Demonstrate the use of scientific theory.
8. Prepare, conduct, and demonstrate scientific experiments/reports.
9. Develop perspective and appreciation of art in a variety of mediums.
10. Explore, invent and pursue special interests.

Grade Levels Served: Kindergarten through Eighth Grades

GATE students in grades K-8 are served in the regular classroom. The GATE program provides study trips that expand student knowledge and are aligned to state standards

Evaluation

The GATE Program is evaluated annually in a written report compiled by the Director of State and Federal Programs. The results are reported to the District Governing Board.

1. Key outcomes for GATE pupils are done through an analysis of standardized test data to document that student scores are appropriate.
2. Delivery of GATE services is evaluated through an analysis of GATE class activities, student enrollment data, student attendance data, verbal feedback, and research and creative projects.
3. District identification procedures and criteria are evaluated through an analysis of feedback and student enrollment data.
4. Program administration is evaluated by an independent audit each year. GATE student and program files are maintained by the district. Required reports, surveys, and applications are completed in a timely manner.