

Edgewood ISD Gifted & Talented Awareness Session

A gifted/talented student is 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 leadership; or
- excels in a specific academic field. (Texas Education Code §29.121)

Referrals: Anyone can refer a student, but there is only one assessment window. Referrals must be made by the first Friday in November, in order to be considered for the fall assessment.

Assessments: EISD uses the following five assessments, but are not limited to: MAPS Mid-Year Achievement Scores, CogAT Score, Creativity Portfolio, Parent Behavioral Inventory and Teacher Checklist. The window starts the second week of November through the second week of December for grades 1-12. The kinder window starts the second week of November through the second week of February.

Notification Letters: EISD will mail out letters before Winter break for grades 1-12. Students identified will be placed in the program at the beginning of second semester. Kinder letters will be mailed out the last week of February. Parents/Guardians of students that did not qualify may request a conference with the G/T Teacher for that grade level to review their student's data.

Twice-Exceptional Students



Strengths	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• superior vocabulary• highly creative• resourceful• curious• imaginative• questioning• problem solving ability• sophisticated sense of humor• wide range of interests• advanced ideas and opinions• special talent or consuming interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• easily frustrated• stubborn• manipulative• opinionated• argumentative• written expression• sensitive to criticism• inconsistent academic performance• difficulty with written expression• lack of organizational/study skills• difficulty with social interactions

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Differences Between Gifted Students and High Achieving Students

Bertie Kingore created the following comparison between bright learners, gifted learners, and Creative learners. (Copyright: Kingore, B. (Spring 2003). *High Achiever, Gifted Learner, Creative Learner. Understanding Our Gifted.* --In Press. Used with permission.) These comparisons may be helpful in answering some tough questions why a student who achieves all A's in his or her schoolwork may not be considered gifted.

A High Achiever...	A Gifted Learner...	A Creative Thinker...
Remembers the answers.	Poses unforeseen questions.	Sees exceptions.
Is interested.	Is curious.	Wonders.
Is attentive.	Is selectively mentally engaged.	Daydreams; may seem off task.
Generates advanced ideas.	Generates complex, abstract ideas.	Overflows with ideas, many of which will never be developed.
Works hard to achieve.	Knows without working hard.	Plays with ideas and concepts.
Answer the questions in detail.	Ponders with depth and multiple perspectives.	Injects new possibilities.
Performs at the top of the group.	Is beyond the group.	Is in own group.
Responds with interest and opinions.	Exhibits feelings and opinions from multiple perspectives.	Shares bizarre, sometimes conflicting opinions.
Learns with ease.	Already knows.	Questions: What if...
Needs 6 to 8 repetitions to master.	Needs 1 to 3 repetitions to master.	Questions the need for mastery.
Comprehends at a high level.	Comprehends in-depth, complex ideas.	Overflows with ideas—many of which will never be developed.
Enjoys the company of age peers.	Prefers the company of intellectual peers.	Prefers the company of creative peers but often works alone.
Understands complex, abstract humor.	Creates complex, abstract humor.	Relishes wild, off-the-wall humor.
Grasps the meaning.	Infers and connects concepts.	Makes mental leaps: Aha!
Completes assignments on time.	Initiates projects and extensions of assignments.	Initiates more projects than will ever be completed.
Is receptive.	Is intense.	Is independent and unconventional.
Is accurate and complete.	Is original and continually developing.	Is original and continually developing.
Enjoys school often.	Enjoys self-directed learning.	Enjoys creating.
Absorbs information.	Manipulates information.	Improvises.
Is a technician with expertise in a field.	Is an expert who abstracts beyond the field.	Is an inventor and idea generator.
Memorizes well.	Guesses and infers well.	Creates and brainstorms well.
Is highly alert and observant.	Anticipates and relates observations.	Is intuitive.
Is pleased with own learning.	Is self-critical.	Is never finished with possibilities.
Gets A's.	May not be motivated by grades.	May not be motivated by grades.
Is able.	Is intellectual.	Is idiosyncratic.

Kingore, B. (Spring 2004). *High Achiever, Gifted Learner, Creative Learner. Understanding Our Gifted.*