

WPUSD GATE PROGRAM Elementary and Middle School Offerings

The WPUSD GATE program is designed to offer a variety of curriculum and program choices to GATE and High Achieving (HA) identified students and their families.

Elementary Level

At the elementary level, the Elementary Academy, located at First Street School (FSS), is a self-contained program offering a second/third grade combination class and a fourth and a fifth grade class to GATE and qualifying High Achieving students. In this magnet program the entire class is made up of GATE and High Achieving students drawn from around the district. The program offers enrichments, acceleration and advancements to the standard grade-level curriculum. High level discussions, debates and Socratic seminars occur frequently. Students also are provided an opportunity to develop leadership skills from the structure of the class.

At other elementary schools there are small groups or cluster programs, concentrating GATE/HA students in small groups in a regular classroom at the students' home schools. The entire class would not necessarily be made up of GATE or High Achieving students, but the teacher would be differentiating the curriculum to meet your child's needs. Through the cluster programs, students may work on advanced levels of mathematics or reading, while staying involved in the regular classroom programs.

Although these programs are different, GATE and HA identified students have the choice of remaining in their home school or transferring to the self-contained classroom magnet program at First Street School.

Middle School Level

At the middle school level, the district GATE program is offered through the traditional differentiated curriculum and Advanced/Honors classes at Twelve Bridges Middle School and the Honors Academy at Glen Edwards Middle School (GEMS), a self-contained looping magnet GATE program for qualifying students, with music as a required elective. Incoming students will still need to apply and qualify to be placed in Honors Academy classes. Both middle schools offer unique opportunities for group and project work through GATE-trained teachers as well as Advanced/Honors classes in core subject areas. For more information, please contact the administration at those sites.

Parent Information Nights

There will be a parent information night on Wednesday, May 16 at First Street School for the elementary program. The meeting is from 6:30 to 7:00. At this meeting you will have an opportunity to hear from the GATE teachers as well as ask any questions you may have.

For those interested in the Honors Academy at GEMS, information will be given out at the Parent Showcase May 9th from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. You may also get more immediate information by calling Glen Edwards Middle School at (916) 645-6370.

For any additional questions you may have, please feel free to contact Scott Pickett, Director of Educational Services at 645-6350.