



Independent School District

*GT Awareness  
for Parents*

**Presented by the  
Advanced Academics Department**

# What is Gifted and Talented?

The Texas Education Agency defines a gifted/talented student as a child 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](#))

# Why Gifted and Talented?

According to the *National Association for Gifted Children*, students with gifts and talents:

- Come from all racial, ethnic, and cultural populations, as well as all economic strata.
- Require sufficient access to appropriate learning opportunities to realize their potential.
- Can have learning and processing disorders that require specialized intervention and accommodation.
- Need support and guidance to develop socially and emotionally as well as in their areas of talent.
- Require varied services based on their changing needs.

# Gifted and Talented Services in Alief ISD

## ***What is our goal for gifted students?***

In alignment with the Texas State Goal for Services for Gifted/Talented Students, the design of Alief ISD's Gifted and Talented Services is to provide students identified for gifted services with opportunities to develop their capabilities and demonstrate skills in self-directed learning.

## ***How will we know students have achieved the goal?***

The ability to develop innovative products and performances that reflect creativity and individuality in addition to refined research, critical thinking, and communication skills will serve as evidence of mastery of the goal.

## ***What do we do to help students achieve the goal?***

In Alief ISD, GT Services take the form of educational interventions- content extensions, acceleration, and compacting, in the four foundational curricular areas, provided through pull-out, push-in, full-time inclusion, and full-time gifted only program designs offered during the school day.

# Overview of GT Services in Alief ISD

**K-4th** - GT Pull-Out Service (at home campus if not in AIMS)

**2nd - 4th** - Elementary AIMS - by application - at Boone and Outley only

**5th - 6th** - Intermediate AIMS (at home campus) and Chancellor, Collins, Youens 5th Grade only

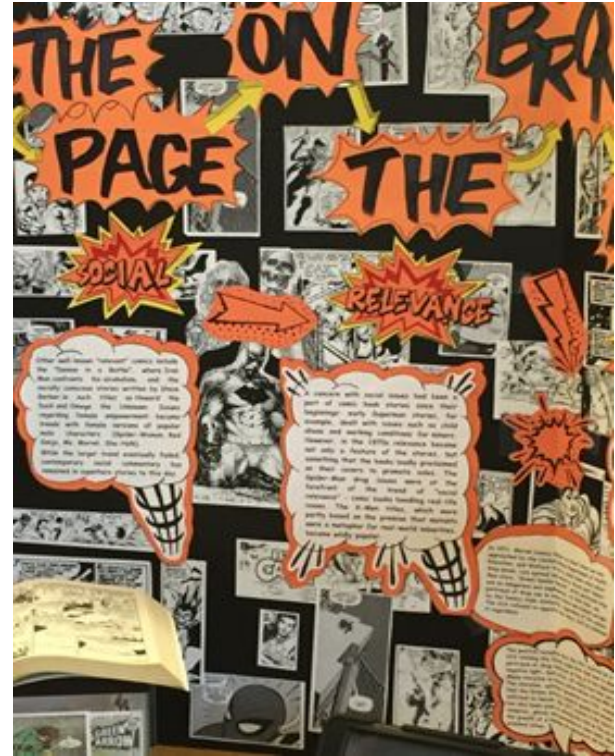
**7th - 12th** - Pre-AP/AP courses



# Overview of GT Services

*The focus of an advanced level program is to:*

- **Assess** routinely to determine student needs, interests, and abilities.
- **Differentiate** instruction with respect to content, process, product, and learning environment.
- **Offer** cross curricular opportunities through integrated academic and real-world connections with problem solving experiences.



# Overview of GT Services

- Offer opportunities for collaborative **research** and independent **study**.
- Provide projects to design, create, and showcase **advanced-level products** for a variety of audiences.
- Operate intentionally within the **application, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis** levels of Bloom's Taxonomy.
- Utilize **technology** as a resource, productivity, and communication tool.

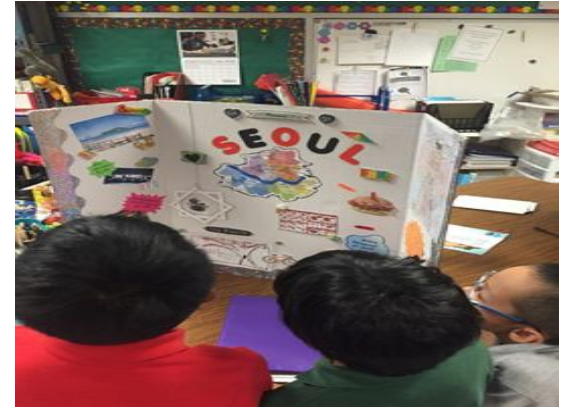


# AIMS in Alief ISD

Elementary and Intermediate students have a unique opportunity to interact daily with their gifted peers in and across grade levels, at an accelerated pace, focusing on instructionally motivated and complex studies within AIMS classrooms.

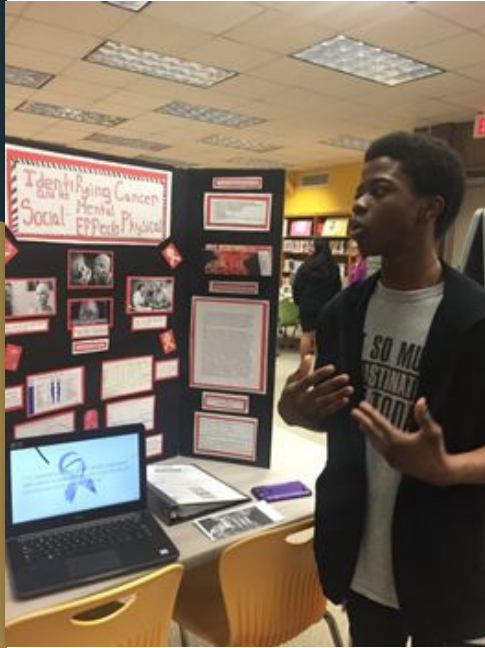
## *Additional information about Elementary AIMS at Boone & Outley:*

- Application process begins in the Spring.
- Letters and information will be sent home from school.
- Waiting list is created, if necessary.





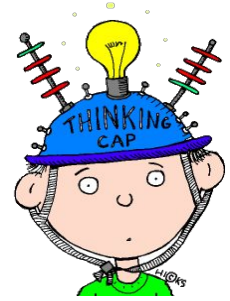
# Texas Performance Standards Projects



# Identification and Assessment Procedures

- Parent referrals for GT identification are accepted beginning the first day of school.
  - Deadline for grades 1-11 is September 30, 2021
  - Deadline for Kinder is November 20, 2021
- Information and the [Parent Inventory and Consent to Test link](#) are on the Alief home page
- Students are screened to determine their eligibility for GT services. The screening consist of a collection of quantitative data (a continuum of 3 assessments) and qualitative data.

# GT Assessment Continuum in Alief ISD



## Quantitative Measures

- *CogAT* (Nonverbal Assessment) - measures a student's reasoning abilities through the use of visuals/pictures. CoGAT is given online and proctored by the campus GT Specialist.
- *Iowa Test of Basic Skills* (or *Logramos for Spanish-speakers*)- a standardized achievement test that measures what a students has learned. Alief administers Reading and Math. Iowa and Logramos are online and proctored by the campus GT specialist
- *Torrance Test of Creativity* - a creativity assessment given in a face-to-face setting

# We also look for input from those who know the student.

## Qualitative Measures

- Parent Inventory and Consent to Test
  - Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese
- Teacher Inventory
- Student Product

**Campus GT Specialists will be communicating with parents via email.**

**It is important that we have your correct email address.**



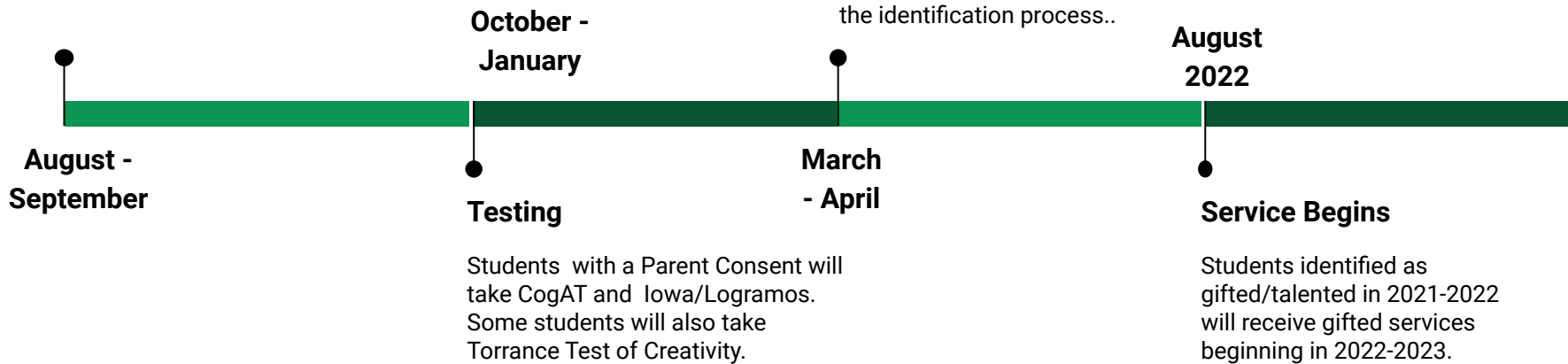
# Identification Timeline (Gr. 1-11)

## Referrals

Referrals are accepted from parents, teachers, and students. The referral form is on the Alief homepage

## Committee Decision

Campus GT Committees will meet. Letters will be sent home notifying parents of the results of the identification process..



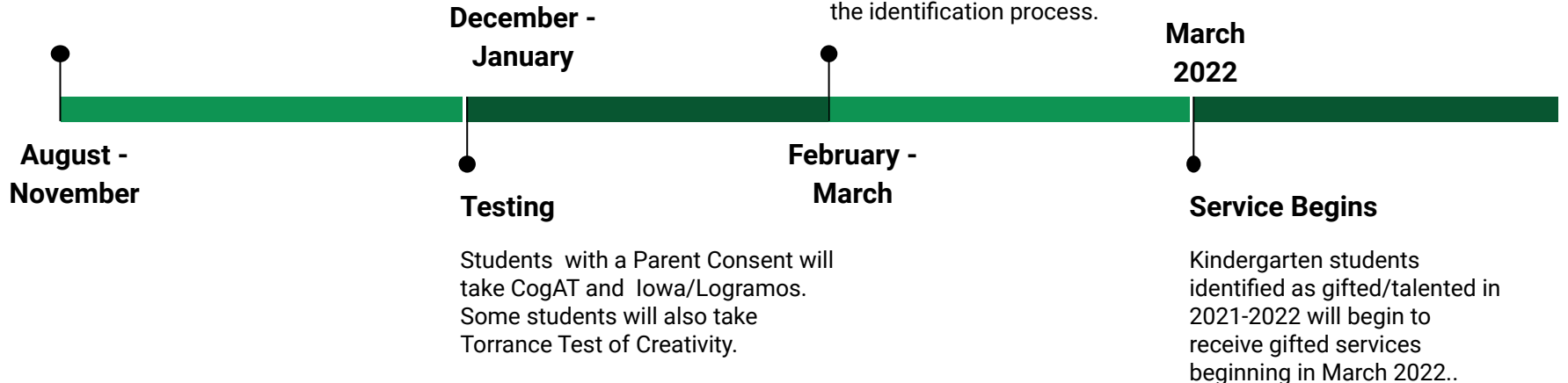
# Identification Timeline (Gr. K)

## Referrals

Referrals are accepted from parents, teachers, and students. The referral form is on Alief homepage

## Committee Decision

Campus GT Committees will meet. Letters will be sent home notifying parents of the results of the identification process.



# Parent Involvement and Support Resources

Parents play an integral role in the identification and nurturing of gifted students. For additional information, please access the following:

[Is My Child Gifted?](#)- a researched-based resource on identifying characteristics of giftedness in children.

[Texas Education Agency: Gifted and Talented Education](#)-guidelines, standards, and policies regarding the education of gifted learners in Texas.

[Understanding the Gifted Child](#)- a webpage for parents dedicated to understanding and meeting the needs of gifted children from Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented

# Parent Involvement

## **Alief's GT Parent Advisory Committee (Alief GT PAC)**

***Purpose:*** to provide parents information about the G/T program in Alief ISD in an effort to enhance services and opportunities for students.

***When will we meet?:*** Twice throughout the school year, once in the fall and again in the spring

***What will we do?:*** Discuss the Alief ISD GT Program including service options and review the design and delivery of gifted services in Alief ISD.

***How can I sign up?:*** **We need 10 volunteers!** If you're interested, complete the [GT PAC Interest Form](#). A member of our team will be in contact with you.

***But my child hasn't been identified as gifted...yet!*** The Alief GT PAC will review and discuss gifted programming in Alief ISD with a goal of enhancing student opportunities. Your child does not have to be G/T in order to serve on this committee.



# FREE PARENT WEBINAR

Register at: [www.txgifted.org/webinar](http://www.txgifted.org/webinar)



TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
GIFTED & TALENTED

## FREE PARENT WEBINAR

### SPARKING CURIOSITY AND DELIGHT

*With Amber O'Neal Johnston*

Tuesday, September 14,  
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (CST)





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