

# Giddings Gifted and Talented News

Volume 3, Issue 2

Winter 2021

## *Parenting Gifted and Talented*

### **DEVELOPING SELF-EFFICACY**

See It, Do It, More! Help your children become life-long problem solvers and self-advocates by including them in solution finding when conflicts arise at home or at school. With your guidance, gifted children can learn to use their extraordinary abilities to successfully resolve the challenges they will face in school (and later in the workplace) when individual differences related to giftedness are not well understood or appreciated.

Four characteristics we often see in gifted children are an unusual ability to communicate, remarkable problem-solving skills, surprisingly mature insight, and an ability to reason logically that is well beyond that of age-peers. These traits associated with giftedness can be honored and cultivated when we help our children “know, understand, take pride in, practice, develop, exploit, and enjoy” (Torrance, 1981) their greatest strengths. When our children come home from school complaining they are bored, it is tempting to commiserate. Unless the situation is untenable for even one more day, a better approach is to listen attentively to your child’s description of the problem and then calmly say something to this effect: “I can see you are really frustrated. What are some of the things you can do to make the situation better?”

By resisting our natural tendency as parents to jump in immediately to remedy an injustice (in this example, curriculum that is failing to provide an appropriate level of challenge), you can help your child grow in ways that will have more long-lasting benefits than another few days of less-than-stellar curriculum will have negative effects. Acknowledge your child’s feelings. Affirm his or her sense of being treated unfairly. And, communicate your belief that your child is a capable problem solver. Borrowed from Advocating for Exceptionally Gifted Young People: A Guidebook. Davidson Institute for Talent Development.

[http://print.ditd.org/young\\_scholars/Guidebooks/Davidson\\_Guidebook\\_Advocating.pdf](http://print.ditd.org/young_scholars/Guidebooks/Davidson_Guidebook_Advocating.pdf) (2011)



**Gifted & Talented**

## Giddings Elementary School

First through third graders entered an essay in the Word Wrangler ``Who is my Hero? contest. We identified character traits and learned how to research. Currently, the groups are studying the ancient civilization of Egypt. We are learning about social structure, politics and achievements. Students enjoy doing math using the Egyptian numeral system.

## Giddings Intermediate School

Fourth grade GT students have been nominated for the Lone Star Leadership Academy. This week-long camp improves their leadership abilities, participants gain self-confidence and independence, and develop new friendships with other high-achieving students from across the state. nominees were, JustinDeShetler, Aracely Flores, Tanner Haney, Kayden Harding, Harper Hartsfield, HazelJacobs, Jagger Jatzlau, Karson Kemper, Austin Morrow, Kevin Nguyen, Dominic Rosado, Miguel Tello, and Isaac Villanueva,



**STEM LAB-** A new and exciting for GT students at GIS is the STEM (Science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Lab. The old art room has been transformed into a space to experiment and learn with makerspace, LEGO robotics, tools and building materials. Students are allowed to work through the engineering process on a weekly basis.

## 6th Grade

Our GMS 6th graders are led by Mary Shelton. This six weeks they are participating in the Stock Market Game, An online simulation of the global capital markets that engages students grades 4-12 in the world of economics, investing

and personal finance. Will they make money?!

7th Grade-Under the coaching of Mrs. Ashley Walther, we had some great essays entered into the Word Wrangle exhibits.

Word Wrangler Exhibits

**8th Grade-** Our eighth grade students are led by Mr. Mike Buck. During the first six weeks, they researched mystery projects from around the world and right close by! Through the GT program, students are given choices as to how they present what they have learned, through technology, written word and oral presentations. Best of Show winners were Krystal Gonzales and Kirsten Guillory, Best Presenters were Gunnar Fromme and Tanner Morse (not shown) and Best Technology Ellie West (not shown)



## High School

A GHS GT student has earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. **T Evan Young** received the National African American Recognition plus the Small Town and Rural Recognition. Students who may be eligible have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have excelled on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP Exams; and are African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latino, Indigenous, and/or attend school in a rural area or small town. Eligible students will be invited to apply during their sophomore or junior year and will be awarded at the beginning of the next school year.

Senior Zoe Hernandez was chosen as Homecoming Queen for GHS. Other Homecoming Court participants from the GT program include Taylor Majewski, Kayden Bloodworth, Kynslee

Schimank, Caitlyn Correa, Hector Granados and Holden Jatzlau



GHS GT students traveled to the Houston Museum of Science and Nature to view the Body Worlds 3 exhibit. Students got to see real cadavers in action poses while learning the value of exercise and health. While there the students also went through the Dinosaur and Butterfly exhibits.

**GT Lunch and Learns-** So far the GHS students have learned about scheduling, business entrepreneurship and time management. Special speakers present and lunch is provided. Upcoming events include:

11/18/21	<b>Technology Careers</b>
12/2/21	<b>Scholarships</b>
1/13/22	<b>Science Careers</b>
2/16/22	<b>Communication Skills</b>
3/10/2022	<b>Medical Careers</b>
4/14/22	<b>Summer experiences that will enhance your life!</b>

PARENT WEBINARS- Free to GT parents at <https://www.txgifted.org/webinar>. You can

listen when you want or need to!

WANT TO VIEW MORE VIDEOS LIKE THIS?



CHECK OUT PAST WEBINARS

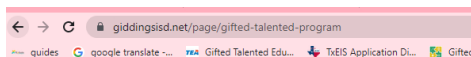
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Past Webinars:

- [Sparkling Curiosity and Delight \(English & Spanish\)](#)
- [Tips for Pandemic & Post-Pandemic Advocacy for Gifted Children](#)
- [Creating Strong Kids Through Writing](#)
- [Connect, Collaborate, Create](#)
- [Helping Kids Thrive in Today's World](#)
- [A Conversation About Difficult Conversations](#)
- [No More Silence: Tools for White People Who Want to Actively Fight Racism](#)
- [Beyond "Full Potential": Reconsidering What Success Means for Gifted Children](#)
- [Finding Their Element: Nurturing Gifted Kids' Passions](#)
- [Working With Your Child's School](#)
- [5 Essentials of Parenting Gifted Kids](#)

HAVE YOU FOUND US IN CYBERSPACE?

<https://www.giddingsisd.net/page/gifted-talented-program>



Giddings ISD  
#BuffaloPride

GIDDINGS ISD // DISTRICT INFORMATION // GIFTED

[Gifted and Talented Newsletter](#)

[Gifted and Talented Spring Newsletter](#)

[GISD Gifted & Talented Plan](#)

[GISD Gifted & Talented Nomination Form \(English\)](#)

[GISD Gifted & Talented Nomination Form \(Spanish\)](#)

[GISD Gifted & Talented Nominations News Release 2020-2021](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)



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