

## Gifted and Talented Education Program Outline

Over the years, Soulsbyville Elementary School has provided a monthly after school gifted and talented education program for our GATE students. While COVID has hampered these efforts, it is the District's desire to see the program be offered once again. The following program outline have been created to support the District's efforts to create and maintain a high-quality program to identify and support gifted and talented students.

### PROGRAM GOAL

To provide high-quality differentiated opportunities to promote academic and social growth while supporting students' unique abilities, talents, and interests.

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR

GATE programming will be offered to 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### PROGRAM SESSIONS

Due to the importance of the GATE coordinator and their role in determining the meeting times and content, this program outline does not contain guidance on the content or frequency of each GATE session. The purpose of this is to provide flexibility to both the GATE coordinator and to the students participating in the program to mold the program to their current talents and interests. The District will support the GATE program by providing high-quality resources and materials to ensure the content of each GATE session is engaging and interesting for students.

### STUDENT IDENTIFICATION AND TESTING

All third-grade students enrolled at the time of testing will be tested using the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test Eighth Edition (OLSAT-8). The test results will only be used to identify gifted and talented students for the GATE program. The results will be released to parents upon written request. Soulsbyville will maintain a tiered set of qualifications for students to participate in the GATE program. Those tiers are outlined below.

Students not enrolled at Soulsbyville for their third-grade year when testing occurred will only be tested at their parent or guardian's request or based on a teacher recommendation. This includes both students enrolled during their third-grade year, but after testing has been completed or in a later academic year. A written request can be submitted for any student who was not enrolled when the test was given during their third-grade year. The request must be received by the end of the second trimester of the current school year to ensure adequate time to test that student. Requests received after this timeframe may be tested the following academic year. Parents may also submit a written request to re-test their student if at least two academic years have passed since the date of their previous test. For example, if a student was tested in the 2019-2020 school year, a request for re-testing may be submitted in the 2021-2022 school year. TK through second grade students will not be tested early, even at parental request.

### QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

As of January 17, 2023, the following qualification tiers will be used to identify students for the GATE program:

**Qualification Criteria X:** A scaled and normed SAI score of 130 or above on the OLSAT-8.

**Qualification Criteria Y:** A scaled and normed SAI score of 118 -129 and a score of 4 in ELA and/or Math on the prior year's SBAC/CAASPP Testing; In the case of a 3rd Grade student, students may not officially qualify until their 3<sup>rd</sup> grade CAASPP scores are received.

**Qualification Criteria Z:** A scaled and normed SAI score of 118-129 and two written teacher recommendations based on other criteria/special circumstances (giftedness in other areas of academics and/or the arts).

The qualification criteria can be re-evaluated by a committee composed of the GATE coordinator, one district administrator, one certified teacher, and one parent volunteer that currently has or previously has had a student that has qualified for Soulsbyville's GATE program.