GIFTED/TALENTED PROGRAM  
PEARLAND ISD

Beliefs
We believe that gifted/talented students are passionate about learning, solve problems in unique ways, and require support from trained teachers/mentors who are sensitive to their individual needs.

We believe that appropriate services for gifted/talented students will enable them to work successfully alone, with other gifted students, and with students not identified as gifted.

Philosophy
Gifted students come from all races, socio-economic strata, geographic locales, and environments. They display unique needs and possess unusual abilities and talents which merit recognition and nurturing.

Mission Statement
In order to nurture the unique needs of gifted/talented learners, Pearland ISD offers a comprehensive array of differentiated learning experiences that provide greater depth and complexity than what is included in the district’s core curriculum.

Gifted/Talented Program

Pearland ISD
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For more information, contact:
Pearland Independent School District
Office of Advanced Academics
1928 North Main St.
Pearland, TX. 77581
281-485-3203
www.pearlandisd.org
INFORMATION FROM THE TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

Definition of “gifted student”

“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….”

(TAC §29.121)

Goal for Services for Gifted Students

Students who participate in services designed for gifted students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

(Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/ Talented Students, 2009)

For more information on the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/ Talented Students, please contact:

Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701
512-463-9734
www.tea.state.tx.us

PEARLAND ISD GIFTED/TALENTED PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Design

In grades K-4, a teacher trained to work with gifted students serves identified students in cluster groups. Teachers differentiate the grade level curriculum by providing academic content enrichment and extensions.

In grades 5-8, teachers trained to work with gifted students serve identified students through advanced or Pre-AP classes in the four core areas (language arts, mathematics, science and social studies). Students identified as gifted and talented are encouraged to take any or all of these advanced level classes.

The Pearland ISD G/T Academy is a program option for gifted 5th - 8th grade students providing challenging learning opportunities in an environment that supports students socially and emotionally. G/T Academy students will have unique opportunities for acceleration, independent study and enrichment.

In grades 9-12, teachers with specialized training serve identified students in Pre-AP and Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The AP Program allows students access to college-level content as part of their high school curriculum. These courses, in all core areas as well as several elective areas, offer challenging learning experiences and maintain national standards set by the College Board. Students who meet specific criteria set by each college or university on an AP Exam often receive credit for specific college courses. Additional opportunities for advancement include dual credit courses, credit by exam, and early graduation. For a full listing of courses offered, please refer to the Pearland ISD High School Course Selection Handbook. To obtain a copy, contact Pearland or Dawson High School.

Identification Procedures

Pearland ISD identifies students who are gifted in general intellectual ability. In accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students, both quantitative and qualitative measures are used. Nominations for gifted assessment may be made at any time by students, parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, or community members.

For more information, please refer to the Pearland ISD Gifted/Talented Program Handbook available on the district website www.pearlandisd.org.

Additional Opportunities

Extra curricular activities vary according to grade level and campus. Each campus offers an array of opportunities based on academic support and student interest such as Academic Decathlon, Quiz Bowl, Future Problem Solving, UIL and Math competitions. Please check with your child’s school for more information about specific activities.