

August 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

HISD students have the chance to be tested for Gifted and Talented (GT) identification once per calendar year. As we begin the 2016-2017 school year, we want to make sure that you are aware of the opportunity to have your student tested for HISD Vanguard program services for the 2017-2018 school year. HISD Vanguard programs provide a differentiated curriculum by modifying the depth, complexity, and pacing of the general school program in grades K through 12.

If your child is currently enrolled in HISD and not already identified as GT, and you want your child to be tested for identification, contact the Vanguard Coordinator at your current school and submit a Vanguard Application. Vanguard Applications can be found at your campus or on the HISD website on the Advanced Academic's page:

<http://www.houstonisd.org/AdvancedAcademics>.

The testing window opens on December 10, 2016 and closes January 14, 2017. Each campus determines their own testing schedule. Your campus Vanguard Coordinator will inform you of when and where to have your child on the day of testing and what he or she should bring.

The Iowa/Logramos achievement test is a paper/pencil test and the CogAT abilities exam is an online test. If your child receives Special Education services or has specific needs with respect to testing, please make sure to share this information with the Vanguard Coordinator when you submit your application, before your child tests.

Once the scores are returned, data will be placed into the HISD GT Identification Matrix to determine if your child qualifies for services. The campus Vanguard Coordinator will notify parents of their child's Vanguard Application outcome in March 2017.

Once HISD students are identified, they keep their GT status throughout their tenure as long as the student remains consecutively enrolled in HISD. If you have further questions about Vanguard Programs in HISD, please contact the Advanced Academics Department at advancedacademics@houstonisd.org or call (713) 556-6954.

Sincerely,

Adam Stephens, Officer
Innovative Curriculum and Development