

September 21, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

HISD's Gifted and Talented Programs serve students who have been identified by HISD as gifted and talented in general intellectual ability. These Gifted and Talented programs offer a differentiated curriculum designed to meet the needs of gifted students by modifying the depth, complexity, and pacing of the general school program.

HISD screens kindergarten and fifth grade students who were not previously identified as gifted and talented in what is called Universal Testing. This letter is to inform you that this process begins the week of November 1, 2021. An Abilities Test and an Achievement Test are administered universally to all kindergarten and fifth grade students for Gifted and Talented (G/T) identification.

	Abilities Test	Achievement Test
Kindergarten	Nov 8	Nov 9 - 11
Fifth Grade	Nov 1	Nov 2 - 5

The universal testing of kindergarten and fifth grade students allows identified students to receive G/T services in HISD's Gifted and Talented Programs during the Spring of their current school year. All students who are identified as gifted and talented in HISD will retain their G/T identification providing they subsequently enroll in an HISD Gifted and Talented Program upon identification and are continuously enrolled in an HISD Gifted and Talented Program thereafter.

Upon completion of the G/T identification process, parents are notified and will receive a copy of the completed G/T Identification Matrix. In the event that you are not notified, you may contact your school's Gifted and Talented Coordinator. If a student does not qualify for G/T services, parents can request a Matrix Review with the Gifted and Talented Coordinator at their enrolled/current campus and/or request that the student be tested the following school year as students may apply and be tested once per school year.

Matrix Review Procedures for G/T Identification

A Matrix Review process is in place in accordance with state rule (19 TAC §89.1 (5)). If your student is not identified as G/T, the final report card for the current school year will be applied and a new score rendered. If your child then qualifies, the Gifted and Talented Coordinator will contact you and your child will receive G/T services the following school year. If you have further questions about the G/T Identification process or testing schedule, please email me at Kristina.tran@houstonisd.org.

Sincerely,

Kristina Tran
GT Coordinator

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Trealla Epps, Principal