

HAYS CISD

HIGH SCHOOL G/T UPDATES

Official Hays CISD Newsletter for Johnson HS, Lehman HS, and
Live Oak Academy HS

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MYTHS REGARDING GIFTED STUDENTS

- PART 1

Understanding the unique characteristics of giftedness and how this might play out for an individual is important for parents to comprehend. Only then will parents be able to help advocate responsibly when students are faced with what might be seen as educational issues. Much research has centered around gifted characteristics and many myths have developed. Here are myths based on the work by M. Galbraith, Jim Delisle, and Don Treffinger.

Myth 1- Gifted students have it made and don't need any help in school.

Truth- Every student needs assistance with something, especially gifted students who may already possess the knowledge presented to same-aged peers. Boredom in class is listed as a major reason gifted students get into trouble at school. They still need a well-trained teacher who can challenge and support their needs so they don't fall victim to boredom or underachievement.

Myth 2 - Gifted students make good grades and love school.

Truth- Many of the traditional schools are designed for the average student and therefore do not provide the necessary challenge gifted students need to be excited about school. Many gifted students have interest areas outside the scope of the state required curriculum and therefore may be less than interested in school content even though they are capable of mastering the curriculum quickly. This leads to underachievement and even dropping out altogether.

Myth 3 - Gifted students are good at everything.

Truth- Gifted students learn and view things differently than other students. While some gifted students may excel at most subjects, there are those who have a gift in only one or two subject areas. There are also gifted students who are exceptional at other talents. Moreover, there are gifted students who also have a learning handicap which could mean they are not very good at academic endeavors.

Myth 4 - Gifted students make everyone else in the class and should be used as class tutors.

Truth - Watching a student who is expected to excel or succeed has not been shown to increase the striving student's self-confidence. Gifted students benefit from classroom interactions with others of a similar level. They often can become bored and frustrated when used as a tutor for striving students. Many gifted students lack the patience to work with struggling students, and most have not been trained in appropriate teaching strategies.

Myth 5 - All children are gifted.

Truth - While most students have strengths and positive characteristics, they are not all identified as gifted. Gifted students are those who perform or have the ability to perform at a higher level than their same age or grade peers. Their unique abilities require an adjustment to the content or presentation of material.

GT SPOTLIGHT AND SHOWCASE INFORMATION



GT Spotlight Award: Know of someone who is doing an awesome job supporting the needs of Gifted and Talented students on a Hays CISD campus? Consider nominating them for the G/T Spotlight award. The award can go to a teacher, support staff, or counselor who has provided quality services to support the academic and social and emotional needs of gifted students. Use [THIS LINK](#) to submit your nomination.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8zkwlGa6rUx_YPXS1rOUgN3OoqvEyLvqGDUKlfZlpC6x0Q/viewform

Information about GT Showcase:

Each year, Hays CISD strives to exhibit the projects and work our G/T students are completing in and out of the classroom. This is called the IDEAS showcase. The four high schools in the district band together and create a common space for the students to showcase all kinds of work. Last year we had videos, performances, presentations, poems, etc. This year we are hoping to have even more G/T students participate! For information, contact the campus G/T coordinator or see the Schoology page.

- Innovators
- Designers
- Engineers
- Artists
- Storytellers



G/T STUDENTS IN ACTION

Some Samples of G/T Students Work

COW Day

CTE Students District Wide participated in COW Day on Tuesday, November 14th. COW, or Careers on Wheels, highlights CTE programming available in the district for 8th grade students. Many GT students from all four high schools were in attendance to promote programs such as aviation, cosmetology, barbering, engineering, law enforcement, fire fighting, real estate, agriculture programs, etc.

Live Oak Academy

GT students at Live Oak continue to work hard on their coursework. Students work at an advanced pace in order to finish high school coursework. This enables the students to graduate early and pursue their goals. Many Live Oak graduates participate in early college programs and matriculate to a university. Some begin careers in their field of interest as soon as they graduate.

Lehman High School

AP Literature end of unit project: Create a TV episode with dialogue and dramatize impactful scenes that resonated with the students and propelled the plot in *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood or *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley.

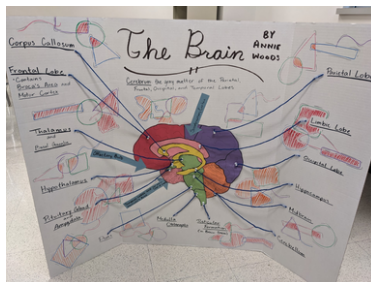
This first link was created by G/T students Jacob Cochran and Brooke Sterling, along with classmates Mi'ya Marcelle, Joseph Rodriguez, Jacinto Castillo

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EQAUSFM1Mnfu81JHTVE9TRFzsJ75Om-m/view?resourcekey&pli=1>

The second link was created by G/T students Elizabeth Neal and Kaleb Mindieta along with classmates Noelle Clark, Nia Munoz,

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ebHpAmejQR31tyD_0A7lU6il8LJUxAa9/view?resourcekey

In AP Psychology, students complete The Creative Brain Project. In order for them to show that they know where items are and what they do, they got to design and create a model of the brain. students got to choose how they want to demonstrate where the items are in the brain and what they do.



Johnson High School

- AP Language and Composition students created advertising campaigns using logical fallacies.
- Engineering Students also got to go on field trips to NASA and to Space X to witness a rocket launch. They will also be building their own rockets.
- AP Literature and Composition students wrote sonnets and competed in a "Smackdown Competition."
- AP US History students participated in a mock impeachment trial for President Andrew Johnson.
- AP Psychology students wrote "Brain Limericks."
- AP European History students participated in an Enlightenment Salon in which they took on the persona of an Enlightenment Era philosopher.
- AP Government students completed a Congress project with a Mock Supreme Court

IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM YOUR HIGH SCHOOL G/T LEAD TEACHERS

Save the Date:

March 6, 2024 --GT Parent Meet--Time and Location TBD

Schoology Group

Please join the Schoology group for parents of Gifted/Talented students using code **PPW5-P8P8-ZK3B2**.

Parents of G/T Students Support Group

Do you have a gifted and talented child? Are you looking for some ideas and support from other parents to help you understand your child's social and emotional needs? If so, please join the Facebook Group created by Jennifer Storm, a parent at Elm Grove. She created this support group and would love for you to join and

share ideas. For more information, click on [THIS LINK](#).

There are also some support groups listed on [Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented](#)

Helpful Links for Parents

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented: Parent Webinars

<https://www.txgifted.org/webinar>

48 Essential Links for the Parents of Gifted Children:

<https://oedb.org/ilibrarian/50-essential-links-for-the-parents-of-gifted-children/>

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented: <https://www.txgifted.org/parents>

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented: Parent Webinars

<https://www.txgifted.org/webinar>

Parenting Gifted Children Challenges and Tips:

<https://www.davidsongifted.org/gifted-blog/parenting-gifted-children-challenges-and-tips/>

18 Resources for the Parents of Gifted Children:

<https://www.teachthought.com/pedagogy/gifted-students/>