Gifted & Talented and Advanced Placement
Is G/T necessary?

- We readily identify those with special needs: Why not also identify those with special abilities?
- The purpose of identifying a gifted child is to provide appropriate learning experiences for them.
Are any of these true???

- Gifted students are like a group of individuals
- Gifted children are better
- Gifted children will make it on their own
- Gifted students are perfect
- Gifted children like to be called “Gifted”
- Gifted students always excel in ALL subjects
NO!!!!
All False
What Qualifies as Gifted/Talented?

• Characteristics and/or types of G/T
  – Intellectually gifted
  – Creative
  – Talented
  – Hidden Gifted, Creative, or Talented
IDENTIFICATION

Criteria for Secondary G/T:

• CogAT Ability test (125 +)
• Naglierri (125+)
• TAKS tests (commended)
• Report Card Grades (95+)

The window for identification begins in January and ends the first week in February.
6th graders entering Junior High

• ALL 6th graders currently identified G/T MUST complete a G/T application.
  ▫ This assures the AAS office that students are placed in the Pre-AP G/T cluster classrooms (English, Math, Science, Social Studies) in 7th grade.
Why should we care?

- Incidence - gifted and talented students are in every school, like other exceptionalities.

- Estimates range from 2-5% of the student population being GT, to 15-20% of students benefiting from some special programs.
How are they served?

• G/T students are served in clustered Pre-AP G/T classes in:
  • English
  • Math
  • Science
  • Social Studies

(Secondary G/T is no longer a “pull-out” program)
Expectations

• A course contract is signed by both parent and student at the beginning of the year.

• A G/T student whose average falls below a 70 at the end of a semester shall be removed and placed in a regular class sequence.
G/T Classroom

- Depth/complexity (and relevancy)
- Alter the pace and style as necessary
- Use high level questioning (think Bloom’s!)
- Provide guidance to students’ curiosity
- Allow students to choose content, allow group brainstorming
- Allow students to show creativity and encourage perseverance
- Encourage students to show what they learned through varying media...theatrics, reports, TV commercials, art, song, demonstrations, journals, or other suitable means
- Allow students to prepare and research alone or together
High Achievers - Gifted Learners

A High Achiever
- Knows the answers
- Has good ideas
- Works hard
- Commits time and effort to learning
- Answers questions
- Is a top student
- Understands ideas
- Grasps meaning
- Is a good memorizer
- Is receptive
- Absorbs information
- Listens with interest
- Is pleased with own learning

A Gifted Learner
- Asks the questions
- Has original ideas
- Performs with ease
- May need less time to excel
- Offers detailed & unique responses
- Is beyond his or her age peers
- Constructs abstractions
- Draws inferences
- Is insightful; makes connections
- Is intense
- Manipulates information
- Shows strong feelings and opinions
Pre-AP / AP Courses

• Pre-AP/AP is offered at ALL secondary campuses

• Pre-AP/AP is “open-enrollment.”
  ▫ No application or identification is required.
Why Pre-AP / AP?

- Pre-AP helps stretch intellectual muscles in junior high.

- Pre-AP program introduces skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for success when they take AP courses and exams.

- AP courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses.

- AP courses expose college-bound students to the amounts of homework, study skills, and habits of mind essential for success in college courses.
Why Pre-Ap / AP?

- Pre-AP/AP courses are often the most interesting and fulfilling courses a student takes.

- Pre-AP/AP teachers are among the most prepared, dedicated, and inspiring teachers at their schools.
Benefits

• Improves test scores and promotes academic success.

• Students perform better in other classes.

• Increased enrollment in other AP classes.

• Fewer discipline problems & absences.

• Improves studying skills.
A Different Kind of Class

- From the moment you enter a PreAP/AP classroom, you'll notice the difference—in the teacher's approach to the subject, in the attitude of your classmates, in the way you start to think.
- In PreAP AP classrooms, the focus is not on memorizing facts and figures. Instead you'll engage in intense discussions, solve problems collaboratively, and learn to write clearly and persuasively.
# How do we teach them in a Pre-AP class?

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<th>Pre-AP Classes</th>
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To learn more, also try...

- National Association for Gifted Children (www.nagc.org)
- Texas Association for the Gifted & Talented (http://www.txgifted.org)
- College Board (www.collegeboard.com/apstudents)