

Spring Hill Independent School District

Gifted and Talented “Explore/GT” Education Program

Grades K-12

Vision Statement

The Spring Hill Independent School District provides a gifted and talented program for students who demonstrate a need for an advanced and individually challenging scope of study that may not be present in the normal campus level curriculum and instructional program. To this end the district provides opportunities for all identified gifted learners to pursue a course of study designed to enhance, strengthen and encourage uniqueness of individual abilities and interests.

Definition

Texas Education Agency Definition of Gifted/Talented Students:

In this subchapter, “gifted and talented student” means 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 and who:

- (1) exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area;
- (2) possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or
- (3) excels in a specific academic field.

State Goal

Students who participate in services designed for gifted/talented 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/talented students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

Spring Hill Goals

Students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communications as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment and reflect individuality and creativity.

- High School graduates who have participated in gifted and talented programs will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.
- Students will seek to participate in related activities outside of the normal school day that enhances the student’s area of strength.
- Gifted and talented programs will be publicized to ensure all community members are aware of learning opportunities for identified students.

Nominations

Students may be nominated for the gifted and talented program at any time by teachers, counselors, parents, or other interested persons. Conferences may be held with nominated students and their parent(s) to determine if the students are interested in the program.

Screening and Selection

Students are screened upon receipt of nomination and Spring Hill shall complete the screening and identification process at least once per school year. The following criteria are used to determine placement in the program. It is possible that names of test may vary due to updated versions and/or district decisions to make changes.

1. Intelligence Test: Otis Lennon School Ability Test, or SAGES 2
2. Achievement Test: Stanford 10 or SAGES 2. Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies scores will be used for determination.
3. Creativity: A creative writing prompt and visual will be given and evaluated by a holistic scoring approach.
4. Teacher evaluation: Hawthorne School Version Rating Form
5. Parent Inventory: Parental Inventory of Behavior Characteristics

Scores will be placed on a matrix and reviewed by the “Explore/GT” committee to determine if the student meets the placement criteria. A letter will be mailed to the home of the child informing the parent of the results.

Type of Delivery System

Identified students are served in a pull out program in K-8 in the core curriculum areas. High School G/T students are served in advanced classes and in leadership activities. Each campus provides the gifted and talented students opportunities to pursue learning at their own pace with challenges available on a full-time basis. Opportunities outside of the regular school day are encouraged and provided as appropriate activities are available.