

# *AISD Gifted Education*

*An Inside Look at  
Middle School Services*



# *Advanced Academic Services*

- *Director*
  - *Dr. Jim Granada*
- *Specialists*
  - *Ms. Rhonda Boyer (Pre-AP and AP)*
  - *Ms. Debi Torres (GT)*
- *Classified Staff*
  - *Ms. Sheila Cerda (CEO)*
  - *Ms. Delaine Canales (Chairman of the Board)*









# *Austin ISD's Advanced Academic Programs*

- *Gifted and Talented (K-12)*
- *Pre-Advanced Placement (Secondary)*
- *Advanced Placement (High School\*)*
- *International Baccalaureate (Anderson HS)*
- *IB Middle Years Program (Martin and Murchison)*
- *Advanced Academic Magnets*



# GT Program Overview

- Services provided at all AISD campuses 
- Nominations twice a year 
- Multiple criteria for identification 
- Services provided in core academic areas 
- Cluster model 
- Teacher training 



# *GT Curriculum*

- *Lesson design based on the four strands of the GT Scope and Sequence*
  - *Research*
  - *Communication*
  - *Creative Thinking*
  - *Critical Thinking*
- *Advanced Products/Performances*



# *Pre-Advanced Placement*

- *Offered at all MS and HS campuses*
- *Middle school offerings in four core areas*
- *High school offerings in core areas as well as foreign language, computer science, fine arts*
- *AJSD MS Pre-AP Institute*
- *Pre-AP training requirements*



# *Advanced Placement*

- *Offered at all high schools and at Fulmore, Paredes, and Webb (37 courses available)*
- *2984 students took AP exams in May 2007*
- *5868 exams taken; 51% with qualifying scores*
- *Up from 2620 exams taken and 1393 students taking exams in 1997*



# *International Baccalaureate*

- *IB Diploma Program at Anderson HS*
  - *Authorized in 1992*
- *MYP Program at Murchison MS*
  - *Authorized in 2002*
- *MYP Program at Martin MS*
  - *Authorized in 2007*



# *International Baccalaureate*

- *IB Diploma Program at Anderson HS*
  - *IB Curriculum in 6 areas of study*
  - *Extended Essay*
  - *Theory of Knowledge class*
  - *Creativity, Action, Service*
  - *Certificate alternative program*



# *International Baccalaureate*

- *MYP Program at Murchison MS*
  - *All students entering Murchison as 6th graders are considered candidates*
  - *Must pass classes and fulfill community and service requirement to continue to 7th and 8th*
  - *Required courses:*
    - *Foreign language each year*
    - *PE each year*
    - *Fine arts each year*
    - *Technology*



# *International Baccalaureate*

- *MYP Program at Martin MS*
- *Two levels of certificates: Completion Certificate and Certificate of Excellence*
- *MYP Completion Certificate*
  - *30 hours of community & service*
  - *course work in the 8 subject areas.*
- *MYP Certificate of Excellence*
  - *60 hours of community and service*
  - *course work in the 8 subject areas [two Pre-AP subjects in areas of strength]*
  - *a personal project*
  - *portfolio of work based on international standards.*



# *Advanced Academic Magnets*

- *Kealing MS*
- *Fulmore MS*
- *LASA*



# *Additional Information*

- *Parent Advocacy*
- *Questions about screening results*
- *Process for addressing concerns* 
- *AAQT and networking*



# *Keeping Informed*

- *GT Express*
- *Parent Forums*
- *GT e-mail list*
- *Advanced Academics website*




# *GT Services on Campuses*

- *Services provided at all AISD campuses*
  - *Trained regular classroom teachers (elementary)*
  - *Trained advanced course teachers (secondary)*
  - *Trained counselor*
  - *Trained administrator*
  - *GT Advocate and Pre-AP Coordinator\**



# Nominations

- *Fall/spring windows - press release and ads*
- *Open to parents, teachers, community members, students*
- *Campuses set timelines and inform parents*
- *Students nominated get screened*
- *Parent information on gifted characteristics available from GT Advocate* 




# *Multiple Criteria*

- *Six week data collection period*
  - *Cognitive Abilities Test or Bilingual Verbal Abilities Test*
  - *Ravens Progressive Matrices*
  - *Traits, Aptitudes and Behaviors scale*
  - *Academic Scales/Teacher nomination*
  - *Parent Nomination*
  - *Portfolio*



# *Selection Process*

- *Selection committee of teachers, counselors, and/or administrators with GT training*
- *Collected data recorded on student profile*
- *Evidence across measures of giftedness*
- *Selection for program*
- *Designation of areas of service* 




# *Services - Core Academics*

- *Language Arts\**
- *Math\**
- *Science*
- *Social Studies*
- *Combinations*



# Cluster Model

- *Three or more identified students assigned to trained teacher to work together as needed*
- *Modified instruction and assignments as need arises*
- *Strategies and approaches to increase rigor*
- *QT Scope and Sequence as framework* 



# GT Teacher Training

- *Teacher training*
  - *30 hours of Foundation training (state)*
  - *Yearly 6-hour updates (state)*
  - *Variety of delivery models (AISD)*
  - *Focused topics across multiple areas of GT*
    - *Strategies/Models (CPS, Socratic, Questioning)*
    - *Other focus areas (Poverty, Multicultural, Social and Emotional Needs)*



# *Process for Addressing Concerns*

*Teacher*



*GT Advocate*



*Principal*



*Advanced Academic Services* 

