



Do you
think your
elementary
child is
gifted?





you think your child is gifted



Does your child exhibit the following characteristics at home?

(It's rare for one person to have all of the characteristics and traits of giftedness described here.)

- Did your child start talking (and never stopped talking) before most other children the same age?
- Does your child enjoy books with more words and fewer pictures? Does he/she enjoy memorizing poems, stories, and songs?
- Does your child have a lot of curiosity? Does he/she ask a lot of questions about all kinds of things— one after another?
- Does your child give complex and detailed answers to questions (even simple questions)?
- Does your child have a wide range of interests? Does he/she enjoy trying new things?
- Does your child spend his/her free time drawing, painting, writing, sculpting, singing, or dancing?
- Does your child get lost in his/her own world and become so involved in what she/he's doing that she/he isn't aware of anything else?
- Does your child go further than most kids would to pursue an interest, solve a problem, find the answer to a question, or reach a goal?
- Does your child frequently have unusual ideas? Does he/she give logical, reasonable explanations for events and occurrences?
- Does your child pay close attention to details, is highly observant, and does not miss a thing? Does he/she notice likenesses and differences between people, events, or things?
- Does your child enjoy counting, weighing, measuring, and categorizing objects? Does he/she love maps, globes, charts, calendars, challenging puzzles, and clocks?
- Does your child come up with powerful, persuasive arguments for almost anything?
- Does your child show empathy and sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others? Is he/she aware of problems that others don't notice?
- Does your child worry about the world, other people, and/or the environment?
- Does your child ask questions about the meaning of life and death? Does he/she ask many questions about pain, suffering, and/or violence?
- Does your child understand jokes that go over the heads of other kids the same age?

Expanded and adapted from the work of Judy Galbraith, M.A.



Would I Nominate My Child for the AISD Gifted and Talented Program

What kind of program does AISD offer for gifted students?

The AISD gifted program in grades K-12 covers the four core subject areas of language arts, math, science, and social studies. Program arrangements vary from campus to campus using various strategies to best serve gifted students on a particular campus. The district supports the cluster grouping model, where gifted students are grouped in the same classroom to provide opportunities for them to work with fellow gifted students and with non-gifted students on a regular basis. Teachers who work with gifted students have been specifically trained to extend, enrich, and differentiate curriculum for those students who need more than the regular curriculum provides.

Does my nomination mean that my child will participate in the Gifted Program?

To be nominated is only the first step in the process of selection. Nominations may be made by parents, teachers, and peers. Older students have the option of self-nomination. Once a student is nominated, the child's teacher(s) will be asked to provide nomination information to supplement the parent nomination information. Students nominated for the GT program will be screened, provided the parents give permission for testing. Once all students have been screened, a Campus Selection and Placement Committee will review the student data collected and will make the final GT placement decisions based on an analysis of collected student data. Once a child is placed in the AISD GT Program, he/she will remain in the program throughout all grade levels, unless exited according to stated procedures. Children who are not placed in the program may be nominated again the following school year for GT screening.

What should I do if I want to nominate my child for the Gifted Program?

Twice a year, each AISD campus will hold an open enrollment period for the GT program at their school. Parents need to contact the Campus GT Advocate at their child's school for a GT Parent Nomination Form. *(A copy of the form is attached to this packet for your convenience)* The form must be completely filled out. Be sure to answer the two questions on the back of the form. This information can be very helpful to the Campus Selection and Placement Committee when making student placement decisions. Return the parent form in a timely manner to the campus GT Advocate so they can continue with the GT screening process.

Who do I contact if I need more information?

For general questions about the identification process, please contact the Department of Advanced Academic Services at 414-9986. Specific questions about the process on a local campus should be addressed to the campus principal or to the GT Advocate on that campus.

Elementary Parent Nomination Form For AISD Gifted Program

Directions: Please print. Please make one check mark (√) after each of the 15 questions below, based on your opinion of which choices best describe your child. Give additional information as needed. When you have completed the form, please return it to your child's teacher by the date requested.

Child's Name _____ Birth date _____
School _____ Grade _____

Criteria	Not at All	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
1. Does your child use a lot of "grown-up" words?				
2. Does your child want to know why things are like they are? (Does he/she want to know what makes things or people "tick"?)				
3. Does your child notice likenesses and differences between people, events, or things?				
4. Is your child a keen and alert observer? (Does he/she seem to get more out of a TV show or experience than other children of the same age?)				
5. Is your child interested in "grown-up" problems such as world hunger, pollution, war, etc.?				
6. Does your child explain things well and carry messages accurately?				
7. Does your child suggest a better way to do something if he/she isn't satisfied with the way it's being done?				
8. Does your child have a lot of curiosity? Does he/she ask many questions about all kinds of things?				
9. Does your child think through his/her decisions more than most children of the same age?				
10. Does your child imagine things to be different from the way they actually are? Do you hear him/her saying, "What if...?" or "I wonder what would happen if...?"				
11. Does your child feel comfortable with situations which may not have one "right" answer?				
12. Does your child stick to a job or problem until it is completed or solved to his/her satisfaction?				
13. Is your child sensitive to the needs and feelings of others?				
14. Does your child frequently have unusual ideas?				
15. Does your child seem to look for challenges?				

