

Blurb for E-connection, school newsletters

NOMINATIONS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE) TESTING ARE BEING ACCEPTED NOW

NOMINATIONS DUE DECEMBER 03, 2014

Schools in Pleasanton are preparing for the annual Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) testing period.

The purpose of GATE testing is to identify and motivate highly able students to realize their full potential. The District works with school staffs to provide high quality differentiated opportunities for learning that meet students' particular abilities and talents and to focus on the areas of need.

Students from grade 3 to 7 in Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) are offered the opportunity to be tested at least once for GATE identification. Students may be tested several times, as often as every other year.

Students in grades 4 to 7 must be nominated by a teacher, parent, or other school staff to be tested for GATE services. Parents may nominate their child by submitting a completed *Parent Nomination / Questionnaire / Permission for GATE* to the Special Projects Office. Parents wishing to nominate their child are encouraged to talk with their child's teacher about the benefits and implications of GATE testing. The *Parent Nomination for GATE* form can be found on the district web site <http://pleasantonUSD.net/departments/educational-services/gate/>. There, parents can read the instructions and download the District GATE Nomination Form. Nomination forms are also available at each school site.

Students are not eligible to be nominated if they took the CogAT test last year.

Students will be tested during the school day at their own school. A letter notifying parents/guardians of the testing dates and other information will be sent home mid January. Testing will begin in late January and finish in late February. The test will be administered at each school on different days during this period.

Blanket CogAT testing for all third grade students in the district will be administered in February. Parents of students in third grade will receive a *Permission to Test* letter in early January.

Nondiscrimination

The District's programs and activities shall provide equal access to and shall not unlawfully discriminate based on actual race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics and against students who are members of special populations. *Special populations* include, but are not limited to, students with disabilities; students from economically disadvantaged families, including foster youth; students preparing for nontraditional fields; single parents and single pregnant females; displaced homemakers; and students with limited English proficiency. (20 USC 2302, 2354, 2373)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)