

Blandford Elementary  
School  
Gifted and Talented  
Education  
(GATE) Program

Rowland Unified School District

# GATE Program Overview

- ▶ *"Students beginning in the third grade, with parent permission may test for the GATE program. Upon further GATE committee review and teacher recommendation, students may qualify for district/site GATE programs. For further information, see your school principal for details regarding testing and the individual school GATE program." (pg. 11 - Annual Parent Information Handbook 2017-2018)*
- ▶ *Currently, the GATE students in RUSD are mixed in or clustered in classrooms at all elementary and K-8 sites in grades 3-6. In grades 7-8, Honors/GATE and advanced classes (i.e. Algebra/Geometry) are site-specific. At the 7-8 grade levels, please speak with your site administration regarding any questions or for further information.*



# GATE Program at the Different Grade Levels

- ▶ Students who demonstrate creativity and special ability are referred to testing by the third grade for admission to the District's Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program. At the **elementary school level**, GATE-identified students experience the basic curriculum with differentiated classroom instruction. Throughout the school year, both elementary and intermediate GATE students attend field trips and/or enrichment activities. At the **intermediate level**, GATE students are provided with differentiated instruction and high school level courses. In **high school**, GATE students enroll in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs, Advanced Placement (AP), and honors courses.



# GATE Identification

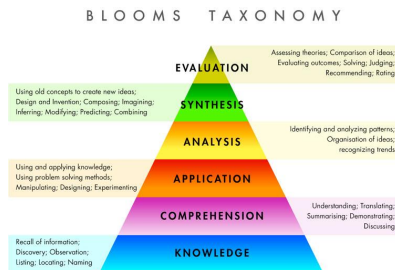
- ▶ Students are identified in late January through early March of each school year.
- ▶ Students may try to qualify for the GATE Program EVERY year in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6, if they meet the requirements, are recommended by their teacher/someone at their site, or if the parent makes a request.
- ▶ The current requirement for students being considered for GATE is the classroom teacher per criteria alone is they MUST have scored “Met or Exceeded Grade Level Standard” in English and Mathematics on SBAC test (if a student such as a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader does not have SBAC scores, then STAR Reading and STAR Math scores are used)
- ▶ Parent requests do not have to meet all of the normal criteria - parents and school staff should meet to discuss what is best for the student and what other strengths are being considered, but parent requests for testing (not identification) are always honored.



# GATE Instruction

## ► Differentiation

- Teachers adjust instruction and assignments to meet the level a student is capable of working at/producing (in this case, raising the expectations/rigor)
- This may happen at the classroom level, where questioning for GATE students is kept at a higher level, with more abstract and challenging questions, specifically for those students.
- Assignments and projects for GATE students may be more complex, higher level, abstract - not necessarily MORE work or more questions.



## ► Enrichment

- Opportunities for enrichment may be offered by the site, the district, or both.
- GATE students complete 3 projects a year that may be separate from what other students in the class complete, these may be enrichment projects to add to their love of a subject/content area. Or, they can also be more rigorous versions of the same projects all students are completing in the class/grade level.
- Enrichment activities might be after-school events, Saturday events, or they could be built into the school day, especially with technology.
- Many enrichment opportunities are built around STEM or STEAM, as well as creative arts, as well.



CSI:  
CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION



# GATE Parent Involvement

- ▶ **GATE Parent Advisory Committee Meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 School Year:**  
October 20, 2017 - January 19, 2018 - April 20, 2018 (9:00 am-10:30 am - District Office Board Room)
- ▶ **Parents meet to discuss:**
  - information about upcoming district events
  - share information about district programs
  - receive training on mini-workshops on topics that relate to gifted students
- ▶ **Families of GATE students also participate in a GATE Family Night at least once a year that involves creativity and thinking outside the box, in a fun and engaging experience.**



# Beyond Elementary School...

- ▶ At the secondary level, it is NOT necessary that a student was identified as a GATE student to be considered for or placed into Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) Classes.
- ▶ In Rowland Unified School District, ALL students (English Learners, non-GATE students, Special Education students) may be placed into Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) classes, if that is the decision reached by the parents, counselor, and school administration.
- ▶ At the Intermediate Level, the Office of Special Projects/GATE has been expanding the GATE Program to hold Super Saturday Events and the GATE Debate Program, and to include more 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- ▶ The Office of Special Projects/GATE will continue to add more events for older students to participate and continue to enrich and challenge themselves academically and creatively.

The AP logo consists of the letters 'AP' in a bold, red, sans-serif font, set against a white rectangular background that is tilted slightly to the right.The International Baccalaureate logo features a blue circular emblem with a white lowercase 'i' and 'b' inside. To the right of the emblem, the words 'International Baccalaureate' are written in a white, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) at the end of 'Baccalaureate'. The entire logo is set against a blue rectangular background that is tilted.

# GATE Program and Events at Blandford

- 4th, 5th, 6th Grade- 3 GATE projects per year with contract and rubric. Focus on depth of thinking and applying skills and strategies in all content areas- not extra work!
- Science Olympiad- Ms. Daniels.
- Shakespeareance Field trip in January (Theater/ Performing Arts)
- Other activities to be announced



# Further Questions...

- ▶ If you have any further questions, please contact your site administration, or you can contact:

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Thank you word cloud in multiple languages including: danke, teşekkür ederim, gracias, thank you, obrigado, merci, and many others.