

# PGUSD GIFTED & TALENTED

## When will GATE classes begin?

Middle School and High School GATE classes: after Labor Day (September)

Elementary School GATE classes: after Fall Break (October)

PGUSD Gifted and Talented Program

August 2019

## What is GATE?

### GATE: Gifted And Talented Education

In PGUSD, GATE is a grant-funded learning enrichment program. We are a part of the Curriculum Department, and support academic enrichment both during and outside of the regular school day. All GATE-sponsored curriculum, GATE-sponsored classes, and GATE instructional activities are based on national and state standards, and build upon our students' 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills: Communication, Collaboration, Creativity, & Critical Thinking. For more information on national standards for Gifted Education in the US, and for a wealth of other resources and materials about Gifted and Talented Education, please visit: [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org).

This year, PGUSD GATE will support our teachers by offering classroom mini-grants that teachers can use for class-wide academic enrichment; we'll work at all school levels on meaningful academic differentiation for our advanced learners; and we will continue to help our secondary academic clubs and competitive academic teams to cover the expenses of their activities, including registration fees and learning supplies.

### What kinds of classes and clubs has GATE supported in the past?

GATE clubs and classes are determined at the start of every new school year, so it is hard to predict exactly what they'll be, but classes in the past have included:

- Junior Great Books
- Computer programming
- Math-letics
- Media Literacy
- Advanced music theory
- Civic action projects
- Robotics

Information about this year's classes will be released as soon as possible. For the secondary schools, that will be the week following Labor Day. For our Elementary GATE program, parents will be notified by email and traditional mail no later than Sept. 30, and classes will begin in early October.

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

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OUR GATE PROGRAM IS FUNDED ALMOST ENTIRELY THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF THESE TWO INCREDIBLE AGENCIES. LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR WORK, AND SUPPORT THEIR PHILANTHROPY BY VISITING THEIR WEBSITES.

# The PGUSD GATE Program

## 3rd Grade GATE Identification: how does it work in PGUSD?

The PGUSD Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) elementary school program uses multiple criteria to identify 3rd grade students who will most likely benefit from an after-school enrichment class.

**The Identification Process:** At the end of each school year, every 3rd grade student is scored across multiple categories. These include: students' scores on The Naglieri\*; standardized test scores in both Mathematics and English Language Arts; socio-economic factors; special education accommodations; English proficiency status; and multiple teachers' input re: academic performance and classroom behaviors. A student's *total* score determines whether or not a student is asked to participate in elementary GATE. Approximately 20% of the 4th/5th grade student population is selected, and *no one factor* typically determines the outcome. Students who transfer into PGUSD with a prior GATE qualification are added to the class upon evidence of prior GATE participation in a previous district.

*\*The Naglieri is a well-respected identification tool for Gifted and Talented students that accounts for the impact of linguistic and cultural factors.*

## What happens next?

Students and families of all elementary-level students who qualify (new and previously participating) are notified no later than Sept. 30, both by email & by traditional mail. Students and families who did not qualify for the class will not be notified.

As part of the GATE notification letter/email, all 4th/5th grade GATE students will receive a description of the current year's program and a GATE class schedule for the year. Elementary-level students can expect GATE classes to begin in October.

After Sept. 30, families may follow up with the PGUSD Curriculum Department if they have questions about a specific student. Please consider that, due to funding limitations, staffing shortages, and a priority on a small class size, only 20% of 4/5th graders can join the GATE after-school class. We assure you that *all* PGUSD students are offered opportunities for academic enrichment during their regular school days, and that the GATE program works with all of our PGUSD sites to support as much academic enrichment as our grants allow.

## Do all GATE classes require official qualification?

Official GATE qualification is only required at the elementary school level. This keeps the after-school GATE classes manageable for the teacher and enjoyable for the students. If a student is invited to participate in 4th grade GATE, he/she does not need to requalify in 5th grade.

As an alternative to elementary-level GATE, we encourage all of our elementary-aged students and their families to consider our fee-based After-School Enrichment (ASE) program. ASE has a wide variety of rotating classes. Some of these classes are academic, and others are just plain fun! More information on ASE elementary programs is available on the PGUSD website, under the [Curriculum tab](#).

For grades 6-12, we invite all students and families to select for themselves if they would like to participate in a GATE-sponsored activity. We encourage anyone who is interested in a GATE topic to sign up for the class or club. The PGUSD GATE program is proud to support a wide variety of academic enrichment classes and activities, supporting academic engagement for over 300 students!