LRSD Gifted Programs

Community Advisory Board
Thursday February 22, 2018
Romona Cheneval- Director, LRSD Gifted Programs
Jennifer Thomas- Secondary Coordinator, LRSD Gifted Programs

Moving
Above & Beyond
Standards
Providing more than the ordinary!

LRSD Gifted Programs provides needed support for gifted learners through program options that are designed to challenge, equip, and empower students. Benefits of Gifted and Advanced Placement programming include higher academic achievement, savings to parents for the costs of remedial coursework, higher high school and college graduation rates, time, and an increase in lifetime earnings and community support.
Program Overview

- **Staff**- School Level, District Level- Services provided via staff in 28 Elementary Schools, 8 Middle Schools, and 5 High Schools. (64 Full and Part time staff)

- **Philosophy**- The Little Rock School District is committed to providing quality, equitable educational programs for students with a potential for giftedness. The gifted programs are designed to challenge these students who have unique needs, abilities, and talents through a variety of learning approaches, including enrichment, qualitatively differentiated curriculum, and acceleration.

- **Definition**- Gifted and Talented children and youth are those of high potential or ability, whose learning characteristics and educational needs require qualitatively differentiated educational experiences and/or services. Possession of these talents and gifts, or the potential for their development, will be evidenced through an interaction of above average intellectual ability, task commitment, and/or motivation and creative ability. (Arkansas Dept. of Education Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards, 2009)
Renzulli Definition of Gifted...

Giftedness as defined by Joseph Renzulli is the convergence of above average academic ability with high levels of creativity and task commitment.
Goals

- Develop a systematic and continuous method of finding/identifying new students whose needs indicate a need for service and support, and who will benefit from participation in the program.
- Develop, implement, manage, and support a variety of program options that meet the needs of advanced learners.
- Provide educational opportunities and differentiated experiences particularly suited to the needs of gifted learners through which they can continue developing and exceed their potential.
- Establish learning environments that value and enhance intelligence, talent, creativity, higher levels of thinking, problem solving, and affective growth.
- Provide opportunities for active participation and engagement of students, parents, families, staff, and community members.
- Create processes and procedures that support the schools’ efforts to meet and exceed standards.
- Recognize and celebrate diversity; strive to identify top 10% in each ethnic group.
- Celebrate strengths and successes while addressing deficits.
- Practice the art of reflection in all aspects of the program for the purpose of improvement.
**Who We Serve....**

*District vs. GT Population Comparison (23%)*

*January 2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>District Enroll</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>GT Enroll</th>
<th>GT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>2.68%</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>3.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>14040</td>
<td>62.56%</td>
<td>2709</td>
<td>52.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His/Lat</td>
<td>3354</td>
<td>14.94%</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>10.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>.24%</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>&gt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two/More</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>1.41%</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>1.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>4067</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>1565</td>
<td>30.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>22443</td>
<td></td>
<td>5126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program Options

- **Grades K-1**: Whole Group Enrichment/Small Group Sessions
- **Grades 2-5**: Pull-out Classes taught by G/T certified staff. Students receive 150 minutes of support/service per week.
- **Grades 6-8**: GT Subject classes, GT Seminar, and/or Pre-Advanced Placement Coursework. Teachers at the middle school level are certified to offer these options.
- **Grades 9-12**: Upper level courses according to interest and ability- Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP), Advanced Placement (AP), seminars, mentorships, concurrent credit, independent studies. All teachers are trained to provide the program options for which they teach.
GT Program Option Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Option (JAN 2018)</th>
<th>Identified GT Student Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole Group</td>
<td>All K-1 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Room Grades 2-5</td>
<td>1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Classes Grades 6-8</td>
<td>514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special School/GT Course within School</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Advanced Placement Courses</td>
<td>2492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Placement Courses</td>
<td>687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent Credit</td>
<td>65- Fall Semester</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Identification

Identification

-Nomination/Recommendation

Who can nominate?

Parent/Student/Teacher

Administrator/Self

-Standardized Exam Scores, Grades, Task Commitment, screeners, observation data-indicators of need for services.
Identification

- Additional Data collection:
  - Non Verbal Reasoning Assessment
  - Achievement Exam Scores
  - Classroom Grades
  - Behavioral Rating Scales
  - Gifted Academic Exam Scores (Sages)
  - K-1 Enrichment samples and observation data
  - Student auditions/Interviews/Projects

Final Placement Decisions made by a Selection Committee of School Personnel
Identification

School-based GT identification committees must consist of at least five trained professionals.

Student names SHOULD NOT APPEAR on the GT profile when presenting information to committee members.

Critical consideration should be given to traditionally underrepresented populations.
Advanced Placement Update

- **PAP/AP Course Offerings** - 4 AP Courses required of each high school- Math, Science, English, and Social Studies (ADE Rules for Advanced Placement, 2009). PAP courses required for each area AP courses are offered. Teachers are required to attend specialized training to teach PAP/AP. LRSD offers 35 different AP Course offerings.

- **LRSD Gifted Programs** provides support for all high schools in gaining approval to offer AP courses through the College Board course Audit process.

- **LRSD Gifted Programs** maintains oversight of training records for all teachers attending the Advanced Placement Training Institute, Laying the Foundation, and other PD support provided to PAP/AP teachers.

- **Increase in Qualifying Exam scores** - 61 scores from 2016 to 2017.
  - 2016 - 1474
  - 2017 - 1535

- **2017 Incentive Funds Received by High Schools** - $76,750
  - ($50 per qualifying exam score of 3 or better from the ADE)
  - Central-$62,000; Parkview $12,900; Hall $1600; McClellan $200; Fair $50
## District PAP and AP Course Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Advanced Placement</th>
<th>5107</th>
<th>Advanced Placement</th>
<th>1594</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAP Grade</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>AP Grade</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>892</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>712</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>238</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrollment numbers indicated are students enrolled in at least one PAP and/or AP course. Each student may be enrolled in multiple PAP/AP course offerings.
Awareness Campaign
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Events</th>
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| September | Planning meeting with College Board Representative  
|          | • Planning meeting for Why AP? Campaign  
|          | • 3 AP Retreats  
|          | • Distributed packets with information and multi-cultural posters to principals which were ordered through College Board  
|          | • Face book and twitter posts to the community  
|          | • Identified AP Ambassadors  
|          | • Counselors Meeting - Shared AP Resources  |
| October  | • Ordered AP Shirts - ASK ME ABOUT AP!  
|          | • Advertised and spoke about outreach at the GT Meetings 10/16 to all facilitators  
|          | • Sent flyers to schools for counselors and AP Coordinators  
|          | • AP Planning Video taped vignettes  
|          | • AP Parent Nights at Central and McClellan  
|          | • Created a URL and survey for the community to begin a semester newsletter from the GT department Magnet Fair  
|          | • AP Buddy Teacher Initiative (teachers collaborating to share strategies)  
|          | • Central and J.A. Fair attended an AP History Summit at UALR with actual writers of AP exams AP History Summit  |
| November | • Face book live and twitter post to the community  
|          | • Spoke at the November Middle school and High School administrator’s meeting about Pre-AP/AP  
|          | • GT Parent nights were held at all elementary schools and middle schools on or before November 30th  
|          | • Open House Recruitment Nights (GT/AP Tables were included)  
|          | • Teachers at Central, Parkview, McClellan, and J.A. Fair received grant monies to enhance their AP instruction (ADE Materials Grant)  
|          | • Attended the NAGC conference which focused on reading gifted students in poverty  |
| December | • NAGC Recap for GT Specialist (Session will highlight reaching out to students in poverty and new national initiatives)  
|          | • Coordinating LTF Training to occur in the Summer of 2018 (Equipping teachers…strategies and content for PAP/AP)  |
| January  | • Registration and GT Identification information shared with district counselors.  
|          | • January 30th – JA FAIR History Department AP Meeting  
|          | •Began Zoom Sessions for AAIMS High Schools  
|          | • GT Program Information shared at Elementary Level Meeting- Elementary Principals  
|          | • GT/AF Advertisement Featured in Little Rock Family magazine  
|          | • LRSD Semester in Review Newsletter published  
|          | • Information Shared with Elementary Principals regarding GT  |
| February | • February 2nd – GT Departmental Meeting: policy, identification, community, and assessment  
|          | • LRSD Teachers/Students to be featured on STEM Starters Documentary- filming in February  
|          | • LRSD Gifted Programs and AP Program information shared at Administrative Level Meetings and Counselors Meetings  
|          | • LRSD Gifted and AP Programs information to be shared with district CAB on February 22nd.  |
Program Celebrations

- LRSD Gifted and Advanced Placement Programs advertised in Little Rock Family Magazine.
- GT Program Application- Reviewed and updated.
- Semester in Review Newsletter Published
- LRSD GT Parent Meetings held during fall semester
- 20 Teams Registered for DI
- 150 Students participated in January Chess tournament, 120 in February tournament.
- Teams recognized for achievement in Y.E.S. contest.
- LRSD Gifted Programs and AP Promoted as part of Magnet Fair
- Jennifer Thomas to receive AGATE Educator Award as part of the upcoming AGATE (Arkansans for Gifted and Talented Education) Conference
- 274 Followers on Facebook- LRSD Gifted Programs (40 Twitter followers)
- LRSD Teachers/Students to be featured on STEM Starters Documentary- filmed in February as part of the districts participation in the Stem Starters Grant received by UALR’s Jody Mahoney Center for Gifted Education.
- LRSD Gifted Programs and AP Program information shared at Administrative Level Meetings and Counselors Meetings
- SPARK 2018- Budget and Timeline approved- June 11-29, 2018- Stephens Elementary
- Handbook Committee work- In Progress
- District to provide Laying the Foundation Training for teachers in each Middle and High School- Summer 2018 to support PAP courses
- Successful Advanced Placement Parent Nights held at Central and Parkview. An AP table was shared as part of McClellan’s Parent Night Hall and Fair AP Parent Night Activities TBA
You are what you believe yourself to be.
— Paulo Coelho
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