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**Mockingbird ISD [Insert District Information Here]**

**Gifted/Talented Services K–12**

 **“Every child deserves to learn a year’s worth of new material.”**

At Mockingbird ISD we are committed to meeting the needs of *all* students, including this special population. Our students have many gifts and talents that range from academics to art, performance, music, and athletics. The services described below address the advanced academic needs of gifted and talented (G/T) students in the four core areas. We are committed to placing G/T students in classes that meet their needs academically, as well as nurture their gifts and talents in other areas such as fine arts and athletics.

**Elementary Services**

Mockingbird ISD’s three elementary campuses have G/T-trained teachers in every kindergarten classroom and one G/T-trained teacher at every grade level through third grade. In grades 4, 5, and 6, our teachers are departmentalized and teach specific content areas. We have two G/T-trained teachers at the fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-grade levels.

G/T students are strategically placed in small groups with G/T-trained teachers. All of these teachers are trained to differentiate their curriculum to meet the needs of the G/T students in their classes. These teachers are trained to compact students out of the content/skills they have already mastered and move students on to new learning. In these classrooms, you will see flexible grouping, tiered instruction, centers, higher level thinking, open-ended tasks, independent study, and student choice. The Texas Performance Standards Project ([www.texaspsp.org](http://www.texaspsp.org)) will be used as a guide for the independent study projects.

**Junior High Services**

G/T services at our junior high campus prepare students for advanced-level work beginning in seventh grade. We have designated honors classes that are designed to prepare students with the skills they need to be successful in advanced-level classes in high school.

G/T students are placed in these classes with G/T-trained teachers. There is one G/T-trained teacher in every core subject area—math, science, social studies, and English language arts—on the seventh- and eighth-grade teams. These designated teachers will meet on a regular basis and will coordinate interdisciplinary independent study units. In these classes, students will master the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills objectives and will move on to advanced-level content. The Texas Performance Standards Project ([www.texaspsp.org](http://www.texaspsp.org)) will be used as a guide for the independent study projects.

**High School Services**

G/T services at our high school campus prepare students for college-level work.

We offer Pre AP® classes that help prepare students to take college-level courses while attending high school. At the high school, we offer at least one AP® class for each of the four core subject areas. If a student has an interest in an AP subject for which we do not have classes, we will look at Texas Virtual School for AP course opportunities.

In addition to our AP classes, we have students who can enroll in Dual Enrollment at the nearby Hummingbird Junior College. Junior or senior G/T students have an option to take an Independent Study Mentorship Class.

We encourage all of our G/T students to graduate with a Distinguished Achievement Program Diploma—the highest diploma a high school student can earn. AP classes and the Independent Mentorship classes can help a student achieve that goal. The Texas Performance Standards Project ([www.texaspsp.org](http://www.texaspsp.org)) will be used as a guide for the independent study projects.