

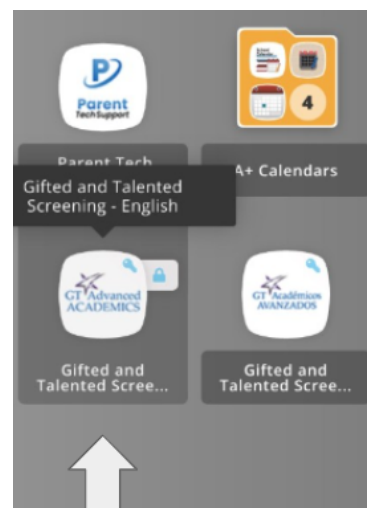
Joan Otten, Ed.D.

Director of Gifted/Talented and Advanced Academic Studies

Dear Parents of Students in Fifth Grade:

The district’s Gifted and Talented screening opportunity for 5th grade students NOT currently participating in the elementary Challenge program is open. Your digital signature on the Secondary Parent Checklist begins the screening process. It also gives the district permission to test your child and provide services beginning in the fall of sixth grade. Secondary gifted program options are available in Math, English Language Arts and Reading, Science, and Social Studies.

If you would like to refer your child to be screened for GT services, complete and submit the electronic form “Secondary Parent Checklist” by **September 4, 2024**. You can access the electronic parent checklist through your Katy ISD Parent Portal at <https://launchpad.classlink.com/katyisd> or scan this QR code:



Log in with your parent username and password. Then type “Gifted” in the search bar, and the tile will appear.

Checklists will NOT be accepted after Wednesday, September 4, 2024.

When completing the Secondary Parent Checklist, you must indicate the content areas for which you are requesting GT screening. Placement decisions for referred students will be sent to parents electronically through the Parent Portal in January. Identified students will enter the program in the fall of 2025.

If you do not wish to refer your child for screening at this time, the next opportunity for GT screening will be in the spring of the sixth grade for possible service to begin in the fall of seventh grade.

Refer to Frequently Asked Questions on side two for more information. If you have questions, please contact the Challenge teacher at your child’s elementary campus.



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Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Secondary GT Service

If I do not request GT screening for my child, are there other options for advanced academic courses in junior high?

Yes; 6th grade students who are ready for the challenge of advanced coursework may enroll in Katy Advanced Program (KAP) courses in English Language Arts, Math, Science, and/or Social Studies. These courses offer advanced curricula and are designed to prepare students for future success in Advanced Placement courses in high school.

Does my child need to be tested to enroll in KAP courses in 6th grade?

No, enrollment in KAP classes is a decision made by the parent and student after careful consideration of factors such as successful mastery of 5th grade coursework, state assessments, work and study habits, and extracurricular time commitments. Students who enter KAP courses commit to staying in these courses for at least one semester.

What is the difference between KAP and GT?

In Katy ISD, students who are identified as gifted in a particular content area are served through the delivery of KAP curriculum, which is appropriate for the needs of gifted learners. They enroll in courses titled “KAP/GT.” Usually, students in a KAP/GT course are clustered within a larger KAP class, although occasionally campuses are able to schedule classes which consist entirely of identified GT students. Teachers of KAP/GT courses have received the required training in the education of the gifted, and are aware of the unique learning needs of gifted students. Identified GT students often form close bonds with other identified students, providing them with a means of meeting some of their unique social and emotional needs.

Is there a grade-point difference between KAP and KAP/GT courses?

No. Both types of courses receive what is called a weighted grade point, meaning that a grade of A in the course counts for five grade points rather than the traditional four grade points. A grade of B would count as four grade points, and so on. Grade point averages are not usually significant in junior high, but become more important with high school credit courses.

How can I find out more about advanced coursework in junior high?

More information is available on the Katy ISD GT website:
<https://www.katyisd.org/Page/4407>

