

Teaching & Learning

Katy ISD

GT PAC

April 23, 2024

*Katy Independent School District,
the leader in educational
excellence, together with family
and community, provides
unparalleled learning
experiences designed to prepare
and inspire each student to live
an honorable, fulfilling life ---to
create the future.*

Mission Statement

Our Purpose

- To share information related to the GT program in Katy ISD.
- Three Meetings:
 - October 26, January 23, April 23
- Membership: One parent representative from each campus and KPGT board members





The Team

Kristi Sides, Instructional Officer for Elementary

Danielle Sanchez, Instructional Officer for Secondary



GT PAC Norms

- Begin and end on time.
- Be actively engaged.
- Focus on the program.
- Respect others' viewpoints.



AGENDA

- **Writing skill development**
 - **Preview summer learning**
 - **Screening data**
 - **KAP Camp**
 - **Destination Imagination**
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Writing Skill Development

AP English Language & Composition

Section II: Free Response

3 Questions | 2 hours 15 minutes (includes a 15-minute reading period | 55% of Exam Score)

Students write essays that respond to 3 free-response prompts from the following categories:

Synthesis Question: After reading 6–7 texts about a topic (including visual and quantitative sources), students will compose an argument that combines and cites at least 3 of the sources to support their thesis.

Rhetorical Analysis: Students will read a nonfiction text and analyze how the writer's language choices contribute to the intended meaning and purpose of the text.

Argument: Students will create an evidence-based argument that responds to a given topic.

Writing Skill Development

Section II: Document-Based Question and Long Essay
2 questions | 1 Hour, 40 minutes | 40% of Exam Score

Document-Based Question (DBQ)

Recommended Time: 1 Hour (includes 15-minute reading period) | 25% of Exam Score

Students are presented with 7 documents offering various perspectives on a historical development or process. Students assess these written, quantitative, or visual materials as historical evidence. Students develop an argument supported by an analysis of historical evidence. The document-based question focuses on topics from 1754 to 1980.

Long Essay

Recommended time: 40 Minutes | 15% of Exam Score

Students explain and analyze significant issues in U.S. history. Students develop an argument supported by an analysis of historical evidence. The question choices focus on the same skills and the same reasoning process (e.g., comparison, causation, or continuity and change), but students choose from 3 options, each focusing on historical developments and processes from a different range of time periods — either 1491–1800 (option 1), 1800–1898 (option 2), or 1890–2001 (option 3).

Writing Skill Development

STAAR now includes constructed response questions on all subject tests.

Challenge teachers are continuing to include writing in all areas.

GT By The Numbers...

- 8542 students identified K-12
- 54% male / 46% female
- 6.7% twice exceptional students
- 9% emergent bilingual students
- 14% low socioeconomic status students



Screening Data

- 8145 students screened K-12
- 2612 students screened 6-12

- 880 2E students screened
- 83 2E students identified

- 1149 students identified



[GT Website & Screening Process](#)

Think Big Learning

- Every Gift Has a Story: Exploring Twice Exceptional Issues
- Coming to Katy ISD in September 2024

This workshop will use a case studies approach to examine a range of diverse exceptionalities and potentialities and to develop strategies to help unique bright students with their learning.



Summer 2024 Gifted and Talented Professional Development

Dates	Medium	Topic	Presenter	Host	GT Hours
Core Hours					
June 1-30 July 1-31	Asynchronous	Nature & Needs	Meredith Austin, Academity	HACOOP	6
May 28 - July 31	Asynchronous	GT for Campus Administrators	Danielle Sanchez, Katy ISD	Katy ISD	6
May 28 - July 31	Asynchronous	GT for Campus Counselors	Danielle Sanchez, Katy ISD	Katy ISD	6
June 1-30 July 1-31	Asynchronous	Addressing the Social & Emotional Needs of Gifted Students	TBD	HACOOP	6
June 1-30 July 1-31	Asynchronous	Differentiation for Advanced Students	Meredith Austin, Academity	HACOOP	6
May 28 - July 31	Asynchronous	The Creativity Infusion	Lisa Van Gemert	Katy ISD	6
June 1-30 July 1-31	Asynchronous	Creative Instructional Strategies	Joshua Hicks, Aldine ISD	HACOOP	6
May 28 - July 31	asynchronous	Identification & Assessment part 1	Danielle Sanchez, Katy ISD	Katy ISD	3
May 28 - July 31	asynchronous	Identification & Assessment part 2	Danielle Sanchez, Katy ISD	Katy ISD	3

Summer 2024 Gifted and Talented Professional Development

Update Hours					
June 10, 2024 June 25, 2024	in-person	GT Refresh**	Kathryn Ley, Kendall Zurbuchen, Katy ISD	Katy ISD	6
June 18, 2024	in-person	Reignite the Spark: Engaging GT Students**	Dr. Brian Housand, UNC-Wilmington	HACOOP	6
May 28 - July 31	asynchronous	Mastering Depth & Complexity	Lisa Van Gemert	Katy ISD	6
May 28- July 31	asynchronous	Gifted 360: With Choices, Creativity, Complexity, & Curiosity	Dr. Brian Housand, UNC-Wilmington	Katy ISD	6
May 28 - July 31	asynchronous	TAGT onDemand: Build Your Own GT Update**	Responsive Learning	Katy ISD	1-3
May 28 - July 31	Asynchronous	Differentiation: Step-by-Step	Lisa Van Gemert	HACOOP	6
June 13	In-person in Spring ISD	The Amazing Race: Maximizing Student Engagement and Collaboration	Phil Losasso, Katy ISD	HACOOP	6
June 26	In-person in Pasadena ISD	Reaching the GT Learner in Math & Science**	Tom Le, Pasadena ISD	HACOOP	TBD
July 16	in-person	The Amazing Race: Maximizing Student Engagement and Collaboration	Phil Losasso, Katy ISD	HACOOP	6
July 1-31	Asynchronous	Tools for the Secondary GT Classroom	Danielle Peterson, Katy ISD	HACOOP	6
June 1-30 July 1-31	Asynchronous	Intro to Depth & Complexity Icons Through Creating Quality Questions	Danielle Peterson, Katy ISD	HACOOP	6
TBD	In person in Klein ISD	Think Big Presentation	Greg Reeves, Think Big	HACOOP	6

** = new for 2024-2025



June 5th, 6th, or 8th
Memorial Parkway Junior High

Students AND parents are invited to attend
one session to learn about the KAP program
and tools for success

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

Session 1: 8:00 am - 10:00 am
Session 2: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Session 3: 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

Session 1: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Session 2: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Session 3: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

Session 1: 8:00 am - 10:00 am
Session 2: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Session 3: 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm



Destination Imagination

Students work together in teams to solve open-ended STEAM challenges designed to teach the creative process.



LEARNING HOLISTICALLY

Academic subjects infused with creative expression ignite learning for all.



LOOKING AHEAD

Students are prepared for the agile and project-based workplaces of the future.



DRIVING INNOVATION

The creative process and competition unite to push students out of their comfort zones.



GETTING EMOTIONAL

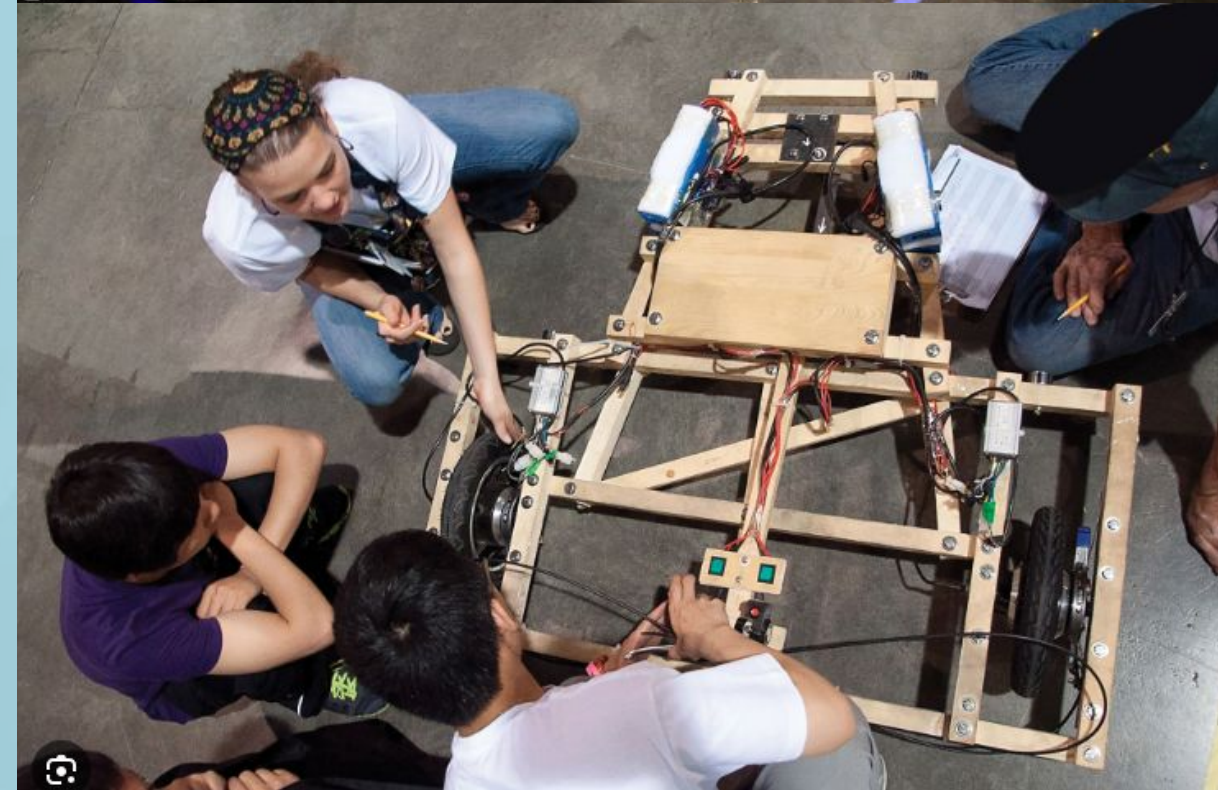
Students develop social-emotional skills such as self-confidence, empathy, and resilience.

The Challenges

multi-disciplinary and cross-curricular

Team Challenges

- Technical
- Scientific
- Fine Arts
- Improvisational
- Engineering
- Service Learning



Instant Challenges

Quick creative and critical thinking exercises that build teamwork and reinforce problem solving.





CHALLENGE EXPERIENCE

Team Challenge Previews 2024-25

The DI Process

In August one sponsor per campus at all levels is assigned by the principal.

Late August-September sponsors advertise on campus to students to form teams.

A parent volunteer will agree to be the team manager for 2-7 students.

The team manager will attend a training provided by Kristi Sides.

The team manager schedules and holds practices with the team as they develop solutions to the challenge they selected.
October-February

Teams must brainstorm, plan, design, test, and develop all aspects of the solution without adult interference.

Depending on the challenge, teams must create props, backgrounds, costumes, and skits.

They also practice instant challenges to build teamwork and communication.



Tournaments

In February, teams compete at the Gulf Coast DI Tournament. Katy, CyFair, and Spring Branch are included with some independent teams.



First and second place teams advance to the state Lone Star Finals in Arlington, Texas in April.



Qualifying teams advance to the Global Finals in Kansas City, MO in May and compete against teams from over 30 countries.



Rising Stars- 1st and 2nd graders who participate at Regionals only. Everyone earns a medal. They do not advance, but most return the next year.



Katy ISD This Year

160 teams participated at Regionals

33 teams advanced to State Lone Star Finals

16 teams qualified to participate in Global Finals





Campus Name	Team Name	State Ranking	Special Awards
McMeans JH	<i>Industrialists</i>	1st	High IC and Renaissance Award
Memorial Parkway Elem.	<i>The Candy Nerds</i>	1st	
Alexander	<i>Phoenix 5</i>	2nd	
Alexander	<i>Bright Lights</i>	2nd	High IC
Seven Lakes HS/ Jordan HS/ Tompkins HS	<i>Ordinary Extras</i>	2nd	High IC
Seven Lakes HS	<i>"Houston We Have a Problem"</i>	3rd	Da Vinci Award
Seven Lakes HS/ Jordan HS	<i>The Ultimate Knights</i>	3rd	
	<i>Ordinary Extras</i>	3rd	Extreme
Beck JH/ McMeans JH, Woodcreek JH, Exley	<i>Team DInoMite!</i>	4th	
Beckendorff JH	<i>Team T-R. EX</i>	4th	
Wilson	<i>The Talented Tribe</i>	4th	
McMeans JH	<i>5 to Infinity</i>	5th	
Tompkins HS	<i>Epic Failiers</i>	5th	
Alexander	<i>The Shooting Tie Dye Sharks</i>	6th	
Alexander	<i>Blooming Blossoms</i>	6th	
Cinco Ranch HS	<i>Two-Toed Dinos</i>	6th	
Nottingham	<i>Chocolate Fudge Cookies</i>	6th	





If your child is interested in joining a Katy ISD team next school year, contact your campus to ask who the sponsor is and be on the lookout for advertising in August/September.

Learn about DI on the website:
DestinationImagination.org





**THANK
YOU**

