

K-12 Gifted and Talented Program Services

The GT Program in Spring Branch ISD is called SPIRAL, Spring Branch Program for Improving Reasoning and Accelerating Learning. GT students are grouped together and are provided differentiated instruction designed to meet their unique educational needs. All GT students are taught by teachers with at least 30 clock-hours of professional development in Gifted Education.

Elementary

Primary Gifted Program (PGP) Kindergarten – 2nd grade

In addition to daily GT services in their classrooms, identified GT students in grades K-2 are offered GT services through a pull-out program that takes place at their home campuses. Students are pulled out of their classrooms for services 90 to 120 minutes a week. Pull-out instruction focuses on the development of independent research skills and on meeting the social-emotional needs of GT students.

SPIRAL at Bendwood 3rd – 5th grade

In addition to daily GT services in their classrooms, identified GT students in grades 3-5 are offered GT services through a pull-out program that takes place at the Bendwood campus. Students are bussed from their home campuses one day a week for a full day of services with identified GT students from other campuses. Instruction in the SPIRAL program at Bendwood is interdisciplinary. Units of study are designed to provide the depth and complexity that GT students need, while also addressing their social-emotional needs.

Secondary

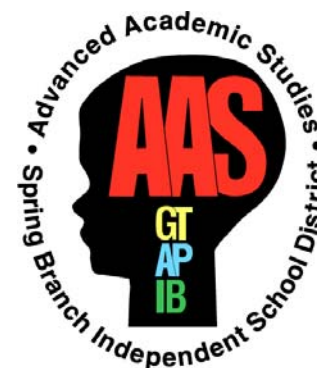
Identified GT students in grades 6-12 are provided services specific to their identified areas of giftedness: language arts/social studies and/or mathematics/science. GT students may be grouped in GT-only classes, Pre-AP/AP classes, or IB classes. The grouping varies by school, grade level, and subject area. Check with your school for additional information.

Lynette Breedlove, Ph.D.
Director of Advanced Academic Studies
901 Yorkchester
Houston, Texas 77079
Phone: 713.365.5650
Fax: 713.365.5719
lynette.breedlove@springbranchisd.com



SPRING BRANCH
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Department of Advanced Academic Studies



SPIRAL

Spring Branch Program for
Improving Reasoning and
Accelerating Learning

SPIRAL/Gifted and Talented

Background

Spring Branch Independent School District seeks to implement a comprehensive continuum of services and program options (K-12) that is responsive to the needs, interests, and abilities of gifted and talented students in the social, emotional, and intellectual areas. The Gifted and Talented Program identifies and serves the special educational needs of students with advanced learning abilities in language arts/social studies and/or mathematics/science.



Referral Process

Anyone may refer a student for the GT program by contacting the student's campus counselor before the deadline. The elementary referral deadline is in early fall. The secondary deadline is in late fall. See the Advanced Academic Studies web site for exact deadlines.

Identification Process

SBISD has developed a two-part identification process to efficiently assess students' needs for the special educational services provided in the Gifted and Talented Program. This two-part process is designed to be student-centered.

SBISD honors test scores for two years, beginning in 1st grade. Exceptions are made only for medical reasons documented by a physician. Students may be referred each year, but previous year's test scores will be utilized.

Level 1

Data is collected through the use of three measures or indicators of giftedness. One of the three measures must clearly indicate gifted services are needed for a student to move on to Level 2.

Elementary

- Planned Experiences
- Teacher Inventory
- Parent Inventory

Secondary

- Planned Experiences
- Teacher Inventory
- Student Self-report

Level 2

Students who qualify for Level 2 are evaluated using nationally-standardized, norm-referenced abilities assessments.

Resources

SBISD: Department of Advanced Academic Studies
www.springbranchisd.com/instruc/adac/adac.htm

TAGT: Texas Association of Gifted and Talented:
www.txgifted.org

NAGC: National Association for Gifted Children
www.nagc.org