Fort Sam Houston Independent School District

TO: Dr. Gary Bates, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Mina Schnitta, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning

VIA: Lori Fuller, Coordinator for Teaching & Learning

RE: 2025-2026 Gifted & Talented Program Report

DATE: October 28, 2026

The Texas Education Code (TEC) requires that the SBOE periodically update a state plan for the education of gifted/talented (G/T) students to guide school districts in establishing and improving services for identified students (TEC §29.123). The SBOE approved the updated language in June 2019. The 2019 State Plan is formatted to accomplishable standards for accountability while recognizing exemplary actions. The accountability standards clarify requirements so that districts may more easily understand and meet them. It also makes use of language and recommendations which closely correspond to current research regarding best practices for G/T services. The State Plan references and recommends the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP). First established through the General Appropriations Act of the 76th Texas Legislature, the TPSP is now established by TEC §39.236 (added by House Bill 3, 81st Texas Legislature) as the primary tool for assessing the effectiveness of gifted services. The 2019 State Plan is fully aligned with the TEC requiring the responsibility for compliance monitoring of educational programs (TEC §7.028).

Annual school district reports of educational performance shall reflect the

- Current numbers and service
- Evaluation of alignment to the state plan
- Report on the advisory committee members
- Number of students who have been exited or furloughed from the program
- Professional learning and program highlights

The report for Gifted & Talented programs for the school year 2025-2026 is attached for review and discussion.

Fort Sam Houston ISD
2025.2026 Gifted & Talented Program Evaluation

Program Summary:

FSHISD serves grades Kindergarten through 12th utilizing both content-based enrichment and pull out or homeroom time. Students were referred to be assessed year-round and there was an assessment window in the Fall for both campuses. The Spring window included the required screening for Kinder and 1st grade. Transfer students coming from a Level 4 program are accepted into our program once their records have been reviewed by the G/T Selection Committee.

Annual Student Counts

Year	FSHE	Cole
2020-21	34	54
2021-22	33	61
2022-23	21	61
2023-24	34	66
2024-25	46	72
2025-26	31	77

No students were furloughed or exited.

Staffing and Professional Development:

We are working on having all core teachers complete their 30 Foundation hours in Gifted and Talented Education or their 6-hour Annual Update if they already have the 30 Foundational Hours. All returning teachers had their 30 Foundation hours and new hires completed by May 2026. All returning teachers completed their six hour annual update.

Program Highlights:

- Third-Grade GT Students Explore the Arts: Third-grade Gifted and Talented students participated in ESC Region 20's *Do Your Part for Art* GT Student Conference, engaging in hands-on puppetry, theatre, and art workshops while collaborating with peers from across the area to strengthen their creative skills.
- Elementary GT Students participated in Hour of Code: All elementary GT students participated in the global *Hour of Code* initiative, exploring computer science through engaging, hands-on coding activities that fostered creativity, problem-solving, and computational thinking.
- Secondary GT Students - Focus for the students: STEM
    - Kick Off activity for high school students since they are usually unable to meet for enrichment (Canyon Lake Overnight Camp)
    - Students planned the camp activities (STEM based)
    - Middle school students
        - completed mini-stem activities which exposed them to field trips including (iFly for lab work/flight and Texas Plastic Bricks)
        - wrote and published books which they presented to the elementary students.
        - attended the annual ESC 20 conference where four of our high school students were presenters
        - ended the year with a showcase where they displayed and explained their passion projects
    - All students in the program ended the GT Enrichment year by using their skills to get out quickly from an Escape Room.

Strategic Plan

- Connection to Academic Experience Strand – implementation of research based, high yield strategies.