



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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3C. Report

TO: BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

DATE: June 28, 2004

SUBJECT: EXCEL GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

The EXCEL Gifted and Talented program, K-6, is a program that continues to be refined to address the needs of students and the requirements delineated in the Texas State Plan for the Education of the Gifted/Talented Students. The EXCEL program identifies and places students in grades K-6 with a classroom teacher who has been trained to work with students who are gifted. Teachers receive thirty hours of initial training, and an annual update of six hours training required by state guidelines. Students can then receive services during the entire academic school day. Students who qualify are served in a pullout program in which they are clustered with students of like abilities. In the pullout program, students work in small groups using enrichment curriculum which has been selected to support and enhance higher order thinking skills and guide the student to products and performances of high quality. This curriculum is correlated to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and addresses the four core content areas as required by the Texas State Plan. Students who are able to work through the regular classroom curriculum at an accelerated pace or who can demonstrate mastery of the subject matter may participate in individual activities with a campus EXCEL Resource Teacher or in activities provided in other instructional settings. These students may work on projects that are an extension of the classroom curriculum, related to a student's specific area of cognitive ability, and appeal to a particular area of interest.

The program's annual evaluation survey was sent out to gather input about the pullout services from parents. Attached is a copy of the KISD EXCEL program survey results. Overall responses to the EXCEL program were positive. The EXCEL Advisory Committee will review the results in August and make suggestions to address areas of concern. The EXCEL Advisory Committee consists of parents, teachers and administrators. The Committee will also review the nomination process and identification criteria, parent handbooks and brochures.

The following are the number of students identified and served in KISD:

CAMPUS	Students Served in EXCEL					<u>Campus</u> <u>Total</u>
	K	1	2	3	4	
KHES	2		5	8	9	24
FES	2	10	13	12	20	57
PES			6	9	5	20
WRES		1	5	6	7	19
HES			11	6	7	24
SGES	1		16	11	17	45
PGES	1	11	6	9	13	40
WLES		1	9	21	18	49
NRES			6	8	6	20
HLES	1		17	16	21	55
LSES	5	1	9	11	13	39
BES	3		6	5	7	21
FRES		2	11	7	7	27
Grade Total	15	26	120	129	150	Elementary Total 440
CAMPUS	5	6	Campus Total			
BCI	52	67	119			
CTI	33	46	79			
PHI	63	56	119			
SKI	49	45	94			
Grade Total	197	214	Intermediate Total	411	KISD Grand Total	857

Additional program documentation is attached for your review.

Respectfully submitted,

Mahala Gardner
Director of Special Programs