

District GT Program Update

The March edition of the district Gifted & Talented newsletter will highlight the Gifted & Talented Program Accountability Goals. In conjunction with the Board of Education and district leadership, the following have been identified as our short- and long-term goals for increasing accountability for the GT program.

<u>Short- and Long-Term Goals</u>	<u>Action Steps / Progress</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Provide consistency in student identification and programming *Ensure predictability regardless of school or demographics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *We have adopted consistent identification criteria, as described in the February newsletter. *We have implemented a district-wide screener for second grade students, as described in the February newsletter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Participate in district/school professional learning *Clearly define gifted and talented resource teacher roles and responsibilities *Ensure alignment with other district programs *Ensure that gifted and talented resources are used most effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *GTRTs are participating in school- and district-level professional learning. For example, by the end of this school year, all GTRTs will have participated in professional learning around math (Dreambox and AVMR), and over the summer, all GTRTs will be completing training in the new BRIDGES math programming. *We have clearly defined the roles and responsibilities of GTRTs and have shared that with district leadership, school principals, and the GTRTs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Ensure student growth as evidenced by reliable measures *Ensure that gifted and talented resources are used most effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *We are monitoring student growth using curriculum assessments and STAR NCE levels. Additionally, second-graders who are entered into the talent development program will take the CogAT again in third grade. *Our curriculum and resources are reviewed annually, and needed adjustments are made. New resources are added or developed based on student data.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Allow for collective decision making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *We have created a GT Advisory Council, consisting of representatives of departments throughout the district and the Board of Education, which meets monthly to discuss progress towards the short- and long-term goals.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Develop a process for recording and monitoring student and program progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *We have been integrating our record-keeping and documentation process into Infinite Campus. This will allow for secure storage of student information and

documentation of progress over the course of a student's enrollment.
*Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) / Differentiated Education Plans (DEPs) continue to be used to record and monitor student goals and progress.
*GTRTs will report elementary students' progress to parents no less than each trimester.

Continued Communication Efforts:

*For questions relating to your individual student's progress or programming, please contact your child's Gifted & Talented Resource Teacher (GTRT) or the school principal.

*We are in the initial stages of creating a gifted & talented parent network that allows parents the opportunity to connect with each other, as well as a format for providing parent education around the social, emotional, and academic needs of gifted students. This is slated to begin in the fall of 2018. We are actively soliciting parent input regarding what to include in this network, if you have suggestions, please contact your student's GTRT.

School Update

Hello Baird Families,

Throughout the month of February the students have continued working toward their personalized learning goals. Each plan is specific to the student's needs. I have started to review and adjust the plans with teachers, as needed, to help students continue to strive toward excellence in their education.

At the end of February, I started facilitating the Cognitive Abilities assessment for 2nd grade students whose parents were notified that additional assessment was necessary to determine a need for extended academic challenges. I plan to finish with this assessment in early March.

Thank you to all of the parents whom I was able to meet with during conferences or spoke to on the phone throughout February. The home school connection is a vital part of strengthening your child's education!

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

**Thank you,
Stephanie Zander**

Upcoming Events

For the most up-to-date information regarding upcoming events, check the district social media accounts, as well as your school's newsletter!



Twitter: [@greenbayschools](https://twitter.com/greenbayschools)



Facebook: [Green Bay Schools](https://www.facebook.com/GreenBaySchools)

You can also subscribe to the district's community e-newsletter ([GBAPS Connects](#)), which is distributed every Monday during the school year, by emailing communications@gbaps.org

Contact Information

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Click [here](#), or type goo.gl/Tq4wf2 into a browser!