

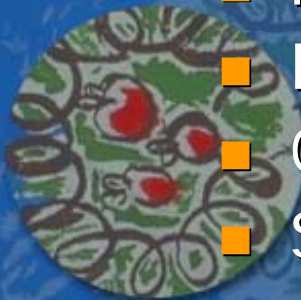
# Gifted and Talented Education at OPE





# Overview

- Welcome!
- Background
- Characteristics & Identification of Giftedness
- CA Education Code 52200-52212
- CA Standards for the Gifted
- Differentiation at OPE
- Other Enrichment Opportunities
- Parent Involvement
- EUSD GATE Committee
- Questions
- Suggestions



# What are the characteristics of giftedness?

- Do you have a passion for justice?
- Are you perfectionistic?
- Are you highly sensitive?
- Do you take on more responsibilities than anyone you know?
- Do you have gifted friends and relatives?
- Do you have a great sense of humor?
- Are you perceptive-seeing through the image to the reality?
- Are you intuitive?
- Has your honesty gotten you into trouble?
- Do people often seek your advice on their personal problems?
  - from Linda Silverman of The Gifted Development Center



# Background

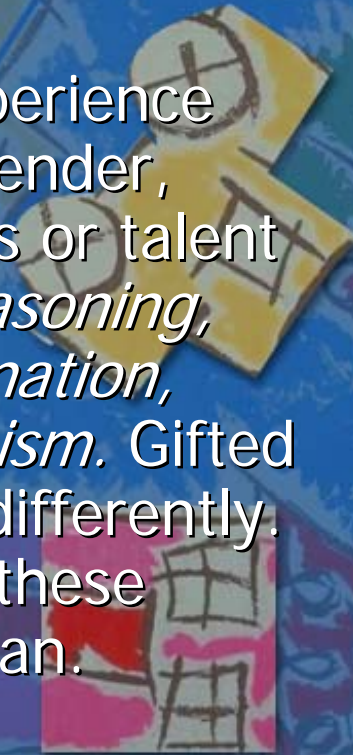
- Personal Experience
- Professional Experience
- Resources:
  - Gifted Development Center  
[www.gifteddevelopment.com](http://www.gifteddevelopment.com)
  - Hoagies Gifted Education Page  
[www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)
  - California Assoc. for the Gifted  
[www.cagifted.org](http://www.cagifted.org)





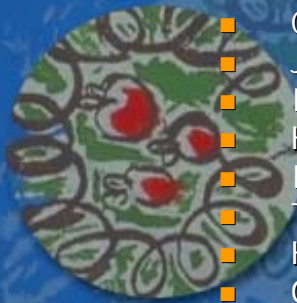
# Definitions/Identification

- Linda Silverman, Director of the Gifted Development Center writes:
- What is giftedness all about? ...
- "there are certain qualities of the gifted experience that transcend age, nationality, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, occupation, interests or talent domain: *good problem solving, abstract reasoning, thriving on challenge, curiosity, vivid imagination, intensity, sensitivity, complexity, perfectionism*. Gifted people not only think differently, they feel differently. Giftedness is a different way of being, and these differences affect one throughout the lifespan.



# Characteristics of Giftedness

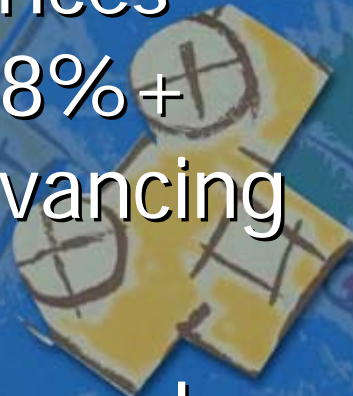
- Reasons well (*good thinker*)
- Learns rapidly
- Has extensive vocabulary
- Has an excellent memory
- Has a long attention span (*if interested*)
- Sensitive (*feelings hurt easily*)
- Shows compassion
- Perfectionistic
- Intense
- Morally sensitive
- Has strong curiosity
- Perseverant in their interests
- Has high degree of energy
- Prefers older companions or adults
- Has a wide range of interests
- Has a great sense of humor
- Early or avid reader (*if too young to read, loves being read to*)
- Concerned with justice, fairness
- Judgment mature for age *at times*
- Is a keen observer
- Has a vivid imagination
- Is highly creative
- Tends to question authority
- Has facility with numbers
- Good at jigsaw puzzles





# EUSD's Current Identification Process

- 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are screened with The Raven Standard Progressive Matrices 1992 ed. Those scoring in the 98%+ for their age are identified as Advancing Learners.
- Students scoring Advanced/Advanced on 3<sup>rd</sup> grade + STAR tests are identified.





# Purpose of Identification

- Class assignments: clusters & combos
- Identify under-achievers and address needs appropriately
- Inform instruction



# How many students at OPE are identified as GATE? How many as Advanced Learners?

- Approx. 25% of OPE's population meets EUSD criteria for identification as ALs.
- GATE advancement happens currently at the end of 6th grade.

# California Education Code 52200-52212

The Legislature is committed to the belief that programs for gifted and talented pupils include all of the following:

- Differentiated opportunities for learning commensurate with the gifted and talented pupil's particular abilities and talents.
- Alternative learning environments in which gifted and talented pupils can acquire skills and understanding at advanced ideological and creative levels commensurate with their potentials.



# Ed Code (Cont.)

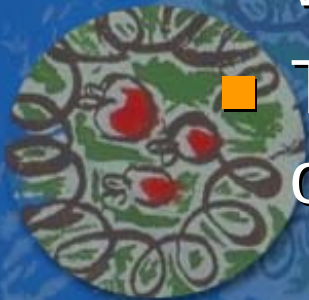
- Elements that help gifted and talented pupils develop sensitivity and responsibility to others.
- Elements that help to develop a commitment in gifted and talented pupils to constructive ethical standards.
- Elements that assist gifted and talented pupils to develop self generating problem solving abilities to expand each pupil's awareness of choices for satisfying contributions to his or her environment.
- Elements that help gifted and talented pupils develop realistic, healthy self concepts.





# GATE Funding

- In order to receive funding for our program, the district must submit an application to the state for approval.
- The application may be approved for one, two, or three years.
- Most districts receive one year approval, ours was approved for three years
- The application must meet the requirements of Ed. Code and California GATE Standards.



# How much money is allocated for GATE and/or Advanced Learning Programs at OPE? Are these state or federal dollars?

- The state allocates \$9.12 per student currently to the district specifically for GATE.
- Last year, the funds were spent at the district level on personnel and professional development for all teachers at all 9 schools, who worked with Susan Weinbrenner, a national expert in gifted education. She also trained several staff members the prior year, as coaches for staff.
- This year, our site received \$3,000 which were used to purchase instructional materials for differentiating instruction.
- In addition, OPE purchased 52 and a mobile laptop lab SuccessMaker licenses this year with donated funds for differentiating instruction. PTA also allocated thousands of dollars for mini-grants, which teachers used to buy supplemental Instructional materials.

# California Standards for the Gifted

- 1. **Program Design** (Districts provide a comprehensive continuum of services and program options responsive to the needs, interests, and abilities of GATE students.)
- 2. **Identification** (The district's identification procedures are equitable comprehensive, and ongoing.)
- 3. **Curriculum and Instruction** (District develop differentiated curriculum, instructional models and strategies that are aligned with and extend the state academic content standards and curriculum frameworks.)

# California Standards for the Gifted

- **Social and Emotional Development** (District establish and implement plans to support the social and emotional development of gifted learners to increase responsibility, self-awareness, and other issues of affective development.)
- **Professional Development** (Districts provide professional development opportunities related to gifted education to administrators, teachers, and staff to support and improve educational opportunities for gifted students.)
- **Parent and Community Involvement** (Districts provide procedures to ensure consistent participation of parents and community members in the planning and evaluation of programs for gifted students.)

# California Standards for the Gifted

- **Program Assessment** (Districts establish formal and informal evaluation methods and instruments that assess the gifted program and the performance of gifted students.)
- **Budgets** (District budgets for gifted programs support and provide for all the components of the district's GATE program and meet the related standards.)

# So what does all this mean?

- The district has certain criteria they must meet for ongoing state financial support of our program.
- The CA Standards for the Gifted and Education Code both support our focus for gifted students on
  - \* differentiated curriculum and opportunities within the classroom
  - \* staff development
  - \* service learning

# What is recommended

- Differentiated Curriculum
- Flexible Grouping
- Clustering students within classes
- More than one identification instrument.
- Strong staff development programs for teachers.
- Parent Education

# What is not supported by research?

- Pull-out instruction that is unrelated to state standards or content being covered in the classroom.
- After school /lunchtime programs which could exclude some students.
- One-time presentations/field trips.

# What does it look like at OPE?

- Students clustered & homogenously grouped for reading instruction.
- Use of technology for extension, particularly in math (e.g. Accelerated Math and SuccessMaker)
- Pre-testing, "most difficult first" and other methods of compacting.
- Development of critical thinking and problem solving skills through class discussion.
- Leadership opportunities in the classroom and school.
- Service learning, speeches, composition and projects that challenge and engage students.
- Special Education services for gifted students with disabilities.

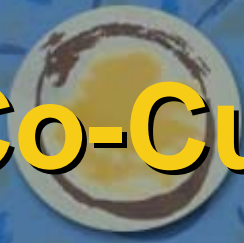
# Enriching Experiences at OPE

- Outstanding Music instruction
- Service Learning Projects
- Quality Science Instruction
- Extreme Lunch/Sports & Fitness opportunities
- Arts Attack
- Video Editing Class
- Technology
- Character Counts
- Growing Library Collection
- Family Science Nights
- Performance Opportunities (e.g. 5<sup>th</sup> grade play, Variety Show, Honor Choir, musical programs)



# Co-Curricular Opportunities

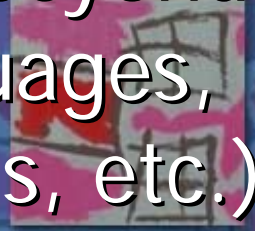
- Math 24
- Destination Imagination
- Chess Club
- Spanish at Lunch
- Extreme Lunch





# Parent Involvement

- PTA, SSC, EEF
- Room Parents
- EUSD GATE Committee
- GATE workshops (see website)
- Club Advisors (e.g. Math 24, DI, etc.)
- Enrich your children's education beyond the school day (instrument, languages, sports, special interests, museums, etc.)



# Evaluating the GATE experience for identified students:

- Currently we look at STAR scores, looking for ADV, ADV, and we have the SST process for students who are struggling in the social/emotional, behavioral, and/or academic areas.
- 85% Score ADV/ADV at present.
- Parent feedback to teachers and admin. via email, conversations, student info. forms, and letters of appreciation.
- We may need to explore other assessments for measuring students' abilities as well as evaluating our program.

# Encinitas Union School District

- We have a commitment to providing a quality program for our students
- We are currently evaluating our program to identify areas for improvement that will align with Education Code and the California Standards for the Gifted.



# Why Choose OPE?

- Community of exceptionally bright, well-educated parents who are devoted to providing the best experiences for their children.
- Highly experienced, knowledgeable, and caring teachers.
- Value excellence & continual improvement.
- Safe, beautiful, learning environment with abundant resources.
- Diversity of learners.
- We love you!



# Questions/Suggestions





# Thanks for Coming!

