Torrance Unified School District

2335 PLAZA DEL AMO
P. O. BOX 2954
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA 90509-2954

TELEPHONE (310) 972-6500
www.tusd.org

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6th Grade GATE Testing: Parent Notification & Permission to Test Form

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The goal of the Torrance Unified School District GATE program is to identify students with exceptional abilities, well beyond grade or age expectations. A student's placement in the 2015-16 TUSD GATE Program is based on GATE identification test scores using either Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT2) or the Otis Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT). Students scoring at or above the 95th percentile on the TUSD administrated GATE assessment will be eligible for participation in the TUSD GATE program.

We will be offering GATE testing to 6th grade students who:

1) Have never been GATE tested in TUSD
2) Have only taken the GATE test in TUSD once before

Students who have already been administered GATE testing through TUSD twice or are already identified TUSD GATE students are **not** eligible for testing.

If your student qualifies for 6th grade GATE testing and you would like your student to participate, please complete and sign the permission form on the second page of this letter. Sixth grade GATE testing requires parents to submit a signed permission slip to your school site GATE Coordinator.

If your student has previously tested for GATE in TUSD, you now have a choice between the NNAT2 or the OLSAT. The OLSAT measures verbal comprehension and reasoning, pictorial reasoning, figural reasoning, and quantitative reasoning through such tasks as detecting likenesses and differences, recalling words and numbers, defining words, following directions, classifying, establishing sequence, solving arithmetic problems, and completing analogies. The NNAT also assesses cognitive abilities, but strictly through nonverbal means. No vocabulary of any kind is used in the test. Instead, students are given visual images, designs and models which need to be organized and sequenced. Before beginning the test, our proctors tell students to look at the NNAT test like a game - a puzzle.

Please note that starting in the 2016-17 school year, GATE testing will not be offered in middle school.

Students who participate in GATE testing will receive a score explanation generated by the test developer, Pearson Education. Along with the score report, you will receive a letter from the district indicating eligibility status for GATE placement. This information will be mailed home approximately 12 weeks after all testing is completed. Testing results will not be placed in your student's cumulative educational file.

Please refer to the GATE link on the district website (under the "Parents/Students" tab) for more information regarding GATE identification and services in TUSD. For further questions, please contact Heather Nakasuji, GATE Resource Teacher at nakasuji.heather@tusd.org.

Sincerely,

Ramona M. Chang

Ramona Chang, Ed.D.
Director of Curriculum

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Please return this page to your school site GATE Coordinator by January 6, 2016. No late applications will be accepted.

6th Grade GATE Testing Schedule for 2015-16			
Casimir February 29, 2016	**Magruder** March 1, 2016	**Calle Mayor** March 2, 2016	**Richardson** March 3, 2016
Bert Lynn March 4, 2016	**Jefferson** March 7, 2016	**Hull** March 8, 2016	**Madrona** March 9, 2016

Has your student been GATE tested by TUSD in the past two years? ____ Yes ____ No

If you marked "yes" to the previous question, which test would you like your student to take this year?

_____NNAT 2 _____OLSAT

Please note, all initial testing in TUSD is completed using the NNAT2.

Please print clearly.

I hereby give my consent for my student to be tested for the Gifted and Talented Education program.

Printed Name of Student: _____

School Site: _____ Grade of Student _____

Child's Teacher: _____

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent email address:_____

Parent Phone Number: ( )_____ Date:_____