

# EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT



## **Gifted and Talented Education/High Achievers (GATE/HA) Program Master Plan**

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*"I am neither especially clever nor especially gifted.  
I am only very, very curious."*

-Albert Einstein

# **EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT GATE/HIGH ACHIEVERS PLAN**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Eureka Union School District (EUSD) is a high performing PreK-8 school district in Granite Bay and Roseville, CA. EUSD is proud of its continuous excellent academic performance across all seven (7) of its schools. Schools in the district are configured in unique ways: EUSD has 3 TK-3 schools (Maidu, Greenhills, and Oakhills), 2 schools that serve grades 4-6 (Excelsior and Ridgeview) and 2 junior high schools (Cavitt and Olympus). In 2023, EUSD outperformed the state and county in ELA and Math, with 75% meeting and exceeding standards in ELA and 68% meeting and exceeding standards in Math. It is remarkable to note that 42% of EUSD students exceeded standards in ELA and 41% exceeded standards in Math. This exceptional performance persisted even after the pandemic.

EUSD's GATE program, in the academic year 2023-24, serves 260 students from Grades 3-8. Of this number, 14% are interdistrict transfers, as EUSD is believed to have built a reputation for high performance. Each school offers unique grouping and educational opportunities to serve the needs of its GATE and high achieving students. The 256 students constitute approximately 11.7% of EUSD's enrollment in 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade (or 7% of the entire student population). English Learners, students with disabilities, and low-income students are represented in EUSD's GATE population. EUSD enjoys high participation and engagement from its families/parents.

The district recognizes the unique needs of its gifted and talented and high achieving students and educators are trained to provide a variety of educational provisions in the cognitive, affective, and creative areas. Educators further recognize that there is wide variation in skills, talents, and interests among gifted and high achieving students. The Board of Trustees believes that all gifted and talented students be provided opportunities for learning that align with their particular abilities and talents through differentiated instruction and unique opportunities. The district's program is designed to provide articulated learning experiences across subjects and grade levels and is aligned to state academic content standards and curriculum frameworks. Moreover, it strives to offer programs that are evidence-based.

This master plan is envisioned to be a dynamic document that also details district goals and action steps for the GATE/HA program. It is also intended to serve as a handbook for families that outlines guidelines and procedures. This master plan was created through the collaboration of educators and parents who are committed to serving the needs of our gifted population.

# GATE BY THE NUMBERS

(Academic Year 2024-2025)

**3,473**

Total Number of EUSD Students (TK-8<sup>th</sup>)

**283**

Total Number of GATE Students

**8.1%**

% GATE Students

**40-42%**

% of High-Achieving Students in ELA and Math 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**13%**

% of GATE students who are not from the district

## GATE NUMBERS BY SCHOOL

| School                | Numbers |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Greenhills Elementary | 12      |
| Maidu Elementary      | 1       |
| Oakhills Elementary   | 11      |
| Excelsior Elementary  | 33      |
| Ridgeview Elementary  | 108     |
| Olympus JHS           | 38      |
| Cavitt JHS            | 80      |

Low testing participation rates at Maidu Elementary School in 2024.

## EUREKA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT GATE/HA MASTER PLAN

### BOARD PRIORITIES

1

#### Student Success

EUSD provides an exceptional educational experience that maximizes each student's potential for learning.

2

#### Conditions of Learning

EUSD offers the space and personnel that provide a warm, welcoming, and respectful setting in a diverse and inclusive environment.

3

#### Engagement

EUSD provides meaningful and engaging opportunities for families, staff, and the broader community to be actively involved in our students' learning experience.

### District's Vision

The Eureka Union School District is dedicated to developing learned and inspired global citizens. We will provide our students with a dynamic, rigorous education that focuses on collaboration, critical thinking, and character development. Our students will be supported in a nurturing environment which fosters the healthy academic, social, emotional, and physical development of each individual. Our partnership of students, families, educators, and community members encourages creativity and celebrates innovation.

### District's Mission Statement

*Working Together for Excellence!*



## **GATE/HA Program Mission and Vision**

### *Championing Excellence, Fostering Brilliance*

Our school district's visionary commitment to gifted and talented education embarks on a journey of empowerment, celebrating the unique abilities and potential of high-achieving students. Through dynamic and inclusive programs, personalized learning experiences, and a dedication to collaboration, we aim to cultivate an environment that not only nurtures academic prowess but also fosters creativity, resilience, and leadership. Upholding values of equity and inclusion, we aspire to provide every student with equal access to transformative education, preparing them not just for academic success but also for a future where their extraordinary potential contributes meaningfully to the global community. In this dynamic educational ecosystem, we strive to inspire a generation of lifelong learners and leaders, propelling our district to the forefront of innovation and ensuring that each student's brilliance becomes a catalyst for positive change in the world.

### **GATE/HA Core Beliefs**

Eureka Union School District's GATE/HA program is grounded and designed from the following core beliefs. These core beliefs were identified in May 2024 by the GATE Advisory Council, consisting of parents, administrators, teachers, board members, and Cabinet members.

1. **Individualized Excellence:** We believe in recognizing and fostering the unique talents and abilities of each gifted and talented and high achieving student. Our program is founded on the principle that education must recognize and address the specific needs, interests, and pace of learning for every individual, allowing each student to reach their maximum potential.
2. **Holistic Development:** We believe in nurturing not only the intellectual capacities but also the emotional, social, and creative dimensions of gifted and talented and high achieving students. Our program is designed to cultivate well-rounded individuals who can navigate the complexities of the modern world with empathy, resilience, and a deep understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses.
3. **Inclusive Access:** We believe in providing equal opportunities for all, irrespective of background or circumstance. Our commitment to equity ensures that every gifted and talented and high achieving student, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, or gender, has access to the resources, support, and challenges

necessary for their growth and success.

4. **Continuous Innovation:** We believe in staying at the forefront of educational innovation. Our program is dynamic and adaptive, embracing emerging pedagogical approaches, technology, and research to ensure that we are providing an education that not only meets the needs of today's gifted learners but also prepares them for the challenges and opportunities of an ever-evolving future.

## **IDENTIFICATION PROTOCOL - GATE**

### GATE Identification

At EUSD, GATE testing starts at 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and GATE services are implemented for GATE-eligible students starting in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. Once identified as GATE-eligible, students do not need to retake the test. Everyone is eligible to participate in TWO testing opportunities offered by EUSD. A third retake is not made available due to limited funding and staffing resources. However, a testing opportunity may be available via CSUS ([California State University – Sacramento](#)). A small fee may apply. Testing results from private practices/offices are not accepted by EUSD at this point.

### Timeline for GATE Identification

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>STEP 1</b> | December 1 - 5<br>Letters of Invitation are sent to families (Grade 2-7). This letter contains the registration link and testing consent form.                                                       |
| <b>STEP 2</b> | January 10 – 13<br>Deadline for submission of registration and signed testing consent forms.                                                                                                         |
| <b>STEP 3</b> | January 13 – 15<br>Confirmation of registration with testing schedule (date and time) and venue are sent to parents.                                                                                 |
| <b>STEP 4</b> | February 14 – 20<br>Testing occurs in the PM at: Maidu, Greenhills, and Oakhills Elementary School for grades 2 and 3.<br>Testing occurs on a Saturday AM at Maidu Elementary School for Grades 4-7. |
| <b>STEP 5</b> | April 1 - 12<br>Results are available for pick up at school sites through the front office.                                                                                                          |

Eligibility and ineligibility letters are sent to parents.

**STEP 6**

May 15 – 30

Sites determine class compositions and GATE cluster classes.

Testing Information

EUSD utilizes the [Naglieri Non-Verbal Abilities Test \(3<sup>rd</sup> Edition\)](#) to determine GATE Eligibility. The Naglieri Non-Verbal Abilities Test (NNAT) is a widely used cognitive assessment designed to measure the non-verbal reasoning and problem-solving abilities of individuals, particularly in the context of school admissions or gifted and talented identification. Developed by Jack A. Naglieri, the test focuses on assessing abstract reasoning skills through a series of visual puzzles, eliminating the influence of language, and ensuring a fair evaluation across diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. The NNAT consists of a variety of non-verbal question types, such as pattern completion, reasoning by analogy, and serial reasoning. Its purpose is to provide educators and psychologists with valuable insights into a person's cognitive abilities beyond linguistic or cultural factors, allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of an individual's intellectual potential.

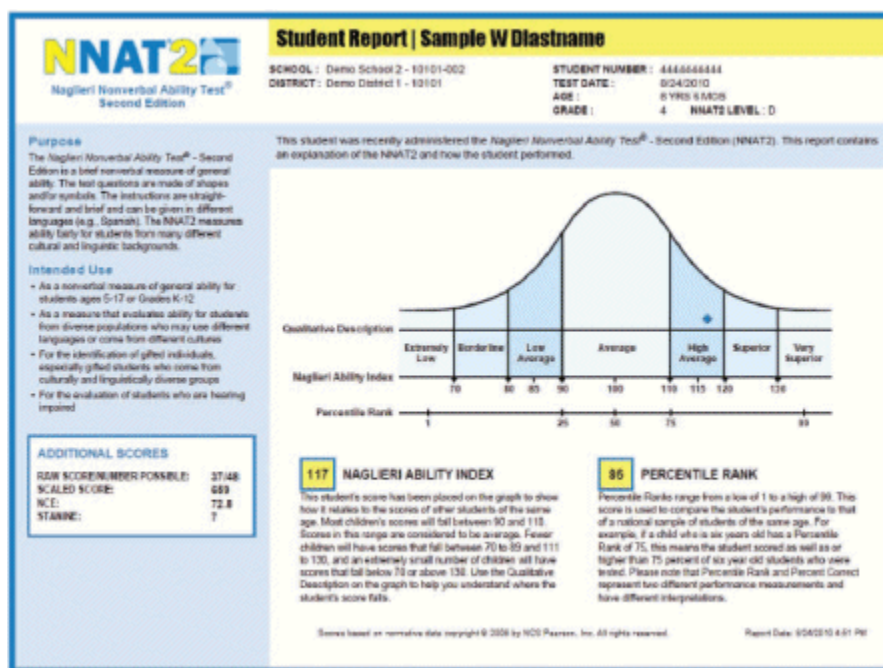
EUSD does not recommend any study guide for the test, but students can familiarize themselves with the test format. Familiarizing oneself with visual patterns, shapes, and non-verbal reasoning concepts can improve test-taking confidence and performance. Various sample test items can be found via a simple internet search.

Determination of Eligibility

EUSD considers an NAI score of 132 or 98<sup>th</sup> percentile rank (or higher) as the sole determining factor in program eligibility. EUSD offers 1 opportunity for a retake the following year.

## Score Reports

A sample score report is shown below:



In this example, the student whose NAI score of 117 and percentile rank of 95% did not qualify under EUSD's criteria for GATE eligibility.

## Score Reports from Other Schools/Districts

EUSD requires students from other districts to send official score reports (in sealed envelopes) to the Curriculum and Instruction Division (5455 Eureka Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746) for evaluation. The deadline for review and consideration is **April 31**. Failure to meet this deadline would result in the potential non-placement of a student in a GATE cluster class regardless of eligibility status.

EUSD accepts any cognitive abilities test (e.g. WISC, Raven's, etc.) **but not** tests of achievement or academic performance (e.g. Iowa Test of Basic Skills, State Assessments). The same index and percentile ranking criteria are applied to any interdistrict applicants or new students.

Note that different districts follow different guidelines for GATE eligibility, resulting in different cut-off scores. California Department of Education does not require districts to offer GATE services, and hence, there is no state-approved testing and eligibility criteria. GATE eligibility in one district or school does not automatically mean eligibility in EUSD's GATE/HA program.

### Letters of Eligibility and Ineligibility

Parents and guardians may receive either of these two letters before the score reports are picked up. There have been rare cases where letters have been erroneously sent, hence, parents are highly encouraged to pick up their student's score reports to determine eligibility. These official NNAT score results are the sole determining factor for students to receive GATE services.

## **Curriculum and Instruction for GATE Students**

### **Curriculum**

EUSD uses the same grade level curriculum for instruction, but GATE-certified instructors/teachers apply differentiation strategies to serve the needs of gifted students in the classroom. Several approaches to differentiation are utilized ranging from the use of depth and complexity icons (discussed in later sections) to special projects (Genius Hour, for example) for gifted students. All students are taught content aligned to the Common Core Standards and Next Generation Standards (as well as other content standards required by the state). GATE students learn the same set of standards but at a degree of complexity and challenge that aligns with their unique knowledge and skills.

### **Grouping Model**

EUSD schools utilize any of the following grouping models. It's important to note that schools may use a combination of these grouping models to create a comprehensive gifted education program that addresses the diverse needs of high-ability students. The choice of grouping model depends on factors such as school resources, student population, and educational philosophy.

#### 1. Cluster Grouping

- Description: Gifted students are placed in the same regular classroom, often forming a "cluster" within the class. They receive differentiated instruction from the same teacher, who is trained to address the diverse needs within the group.
- Purpose: Allows gifted students to learn with intellectual peers while maintaining a connection to the general student population.

#### 2. Subject-Based Grouping

- Description: Gifted students are grouped together based on their strengths in specific subjects (e.g., math, science, language arts) to receive

more advanced and specialized instruction in those areas. At EUSD, this type of grouping is utilized for Math from grades 6-8, and in some instances, 4-5. The curriculum is compacted for students in this class, which may not necessarily include all gifted students.

- Purpose: Allows for targeted enrichment in specific subject areas where students demonstrate exceptional abilities.

### 3. Homogeneous Ability Grouping

- Description: When there are enough gifted students to comprise a class, homogeneous ability grouping may be used. This is also called Full Time Gifted Classes, although this grouping may only exist for the four core content areas.
- Purpose: This grouping allows for a more targeted and accelerated curriculum that is tailored to the specific needs of high ability students.

The effectiveness of any grouping model depends on various factors such as implementation and teacher preparedness. Many experts in the field of gifted education advocate for a flexible and individualized approach, taking into consideration the specific needs and preferences of gifted learners in a particular school or district.

### **Acceleration**

Research suggests that acceleration, such as grade skipping or subject acceleration, can be an effective strategy for meeting the academic needs of gifted students. A meta-analysis by Kulik and Kulik (1984) found positive academic and social outcomes for accelerated students. [Source: "Meta-Analytic Findings on Accelerated Learning" by James A. Kulik and Chen-Lin C. Kulik].

In acceleration, gifted students are moved through the regular curriculum at a faster pace or are placed in classes at higher grade levels to match their advanced abilities. The purpose of acceleration is to provide a challenging academic environment for gifted students by allowing them to progress more rapidly through the curriculum.

"A Nation Deceived: How Schools Hold Back America's Brightest Students" is a report that was published in 2004 by the Acceleration Institute at the University of Iowa. The report, edited by Nicholas Colangelo, Susan G. Assouline, and Miraca U. M. Gross, focuses on the topic of academic acceleration as a means of meeting the needs of gifted students.

This report shared the following key points:

1. Acceleration is Effective: The report argues that academic acceleration, which involves advancing gifted students through educational material at a faster pace or placing them in higher-grade levels, is a highly effective strategy. It challenges

the traditional belief that gifted students benefit most from being with age peers and asserts that acceleration can lead to positive academic and social outcomes.

2. **Myths and Misperceptions:** "A Nation Deceived" addresses common myths and misperceptions about acceleration, such as concerns about social development, emotional well-being, and the idea that acceleration is only suitable for a small group of students. The report provides evidence to counter these misconceptions.
3. **Supporting Research:** The report reviews and synthesizes research studies on acceleration and provides a comprehensive overview of the existing literature. It emphasizes the positive effects of acceleration on academic achievement and contends that many concerns about negative social and emotional effects are not supported by empirical evidence.
4. **Call for Change in Educational Practices:** "A Nation Deceived" advocates for a reevaluation of educational practices and policies related to gifted education. It calls for a more widespread understanding and acceptance of acceleration as a viable and beneficial option for meeting the needs of academically talented students.
5. **Follow-up Report - "A Nation Empowered":** In 2015, a follow-up report titled "A Nation Empowered: Evidence Trumps the Excuses Holding Back America's Brightest Students" was released. This report further reinforced the findings of "A Nation Deceived" and provided additional evidence supporting the benefits of acceleration.

EUSD has a standardized protocol for acceleration, using the Iowa Acceleration Scale that incorporates a holistic assessment approach for determining if a student is an excellent candidate for acceleration. If this is an option for consideration, the first step for a family to take is to have a conversation with the school principal.

### **Within School and Before/After School Opportunities/Summer Programs**

Each school may offer various opportunities for gifted and talented students within school hours or before and after school. These opportunities range from: Ivy League, Special Projects, Chess/Logic Puzzles Club, Math Olympiad, etc. EUSD hopes to expand before and after school opportunities for gifted students through partnerships with parents and community members.

Every summer, EUSD invites GATE and High Achievers to participate in its STEAM-focused GATE camps. These camps are typically 13-15 days long with AM and PM sessions taught by credentialed teachers. To ensure sustainability and high quality, EUSD seeks donations from families.

## **Instruction**

Gifted students are placed in a classroom taught by a GATE-certified teacher able to differentiate learning tasks and assignments for the advanced and more complex learner. GATE-certified teachers undergo training that total approximately 30 hours, including the preparation of GATE-differentiated lessons in a preferred area or discipline.

While there are many ways to differentiate for the advanced learner, the teacher of the GATE student at EUSD often utilizes the Depth and Complexity icons for differentiation. The Depth and Complexity Icons are visual prompts or symbols designed to help students and educators explore content in a more in-depth and nuanced manner. These icons were developed by Dr. Sandra Kaplan and Dr. Bette Gould and are often used in the context of the "Depth and Complexity Framework," which is a model for curriculum and instruction that seeks to enhance critical thinking and deepen understanding.

The Depth and Complexity icons are:

### **1. Depth Icons:**

- Detail: Representing the need for specific facts or details.
- Pattern: Signifying the identification of patterns or trends.
- Rule: Indicating the recognition of rules or principles.
- Trends over Time: Representing the examination of changes or developments over time.

### **2. Complexity Icons:**

- Multiple Perspectives: Signifying the exploration of different points of view.
- Big Idea: Indicating the identification of overarching concepts or generalizations.
- Ethical Issues: Representing the consideration of ethical dilemmas or moral considerations.
- Unanswered Questions: Signifying the exploration of unresolved or unclear aspects.

These icons can be applied singularly or universally across different content areas as well as topics and grade levels. Educators often use these icons to prompt students to think more deeply about a subject, encouraging them to go beyond basic understanding and consider multiple dimensions or perspectives. The icons can be applied to various content areas and subjects, making them a versatile tool for differentiating instruction and promoting critical thinking skills.

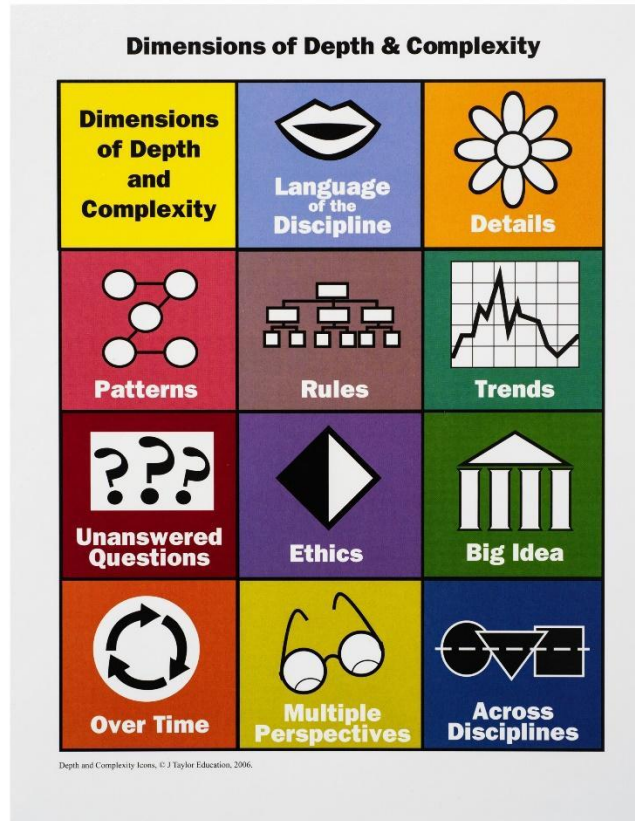


Figure 1. The Depth and Complexity Icons

## GATE PLAN GOALS, ACTIONS, and SERVICES

| <b>GOAL 1: Communication &amp; Transparency</b><br>EUSDs GATE Program will develop and implement a communication plan that informs and updates educators, parents, and community about significant news, new research, new opportunities for students and opportunities for parents/guardians to engage in providing GATE services and advocacy work. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Actions &amp; Services</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Budget/Resources</b>                                                                        |
| GATE Parent Night                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | EUSD will organize at least one parent night event for parents/families of GATE students, with the purpose of fostering program awareness and building connections.<br><br>NOTE: During these meetings, parents will have the opportunity to communicate amongst each other and network.<br><b>Metrics:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation Rates</li> <li>2. Event Feedback</li> </ol>                                                     | \$100<br>(District Office)<br><br>Special Event at Maidu:<br>\$300 - Food<br>\$100 - Childcare |
| GATE/High Achiever Newsletter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | EUSD (via the district office) will create and disseminate a newsletter per trimester that communicates significant news, current giftedness research, as well as highlight site-based programs, staff, and profile outstanding GATE students. Translations will be made available in the top three languages represented by the GATE population.<br><br><b>Metrics:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clicks (Opening)</li> <li>2. Feedback</li> </ol> | \$3,000<br>(District Office)<br><br>(includes translations and intense outreach)               |
| Communication (Site and Classroom)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | GATE Cluster Teachers/Principals will communicate any program implementation news and updates to the site's GATE parents to build trust and promote transparency.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$4,000<br>(includes Hourly pay for extra hours creating newsletter per site)                  |

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                | <p>Classroom communication guidelines will be drafted for consistency. Communication will be made at the district, site, and classroom level. District communication will be translated, representing the top three languages.</p> <p>NOTE: This communication will be grade-span and site specific.</p> | <p>\$2,000 (translations and other outreach services)</p> <p>\$5,000<br/>JAK Communication &amp; Outreach</p> |
| 'Welcome to GATE' Parent Night | <p>EUSD will continue to offer "New to GATE" parent nights to welcome new parents of GATE-eligible students to the district.</p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation Rate</li> <li>2. Meeting Minutes and Agenda</li> <li>3. Feedback</li> </ol>              | <p>\$500<br/>(District Office)</p>                                                                            |

## GOAL 2: Curriculum and Instruction

EUSD's GATE Program will provide high quality instruction and learning opportunities (e.g. Ivy League, Lunch Time chess club) during the instructional day across all subject areas. EUSD will allow and support the implementation of a GATE program grouping model that serves the unique needs of each site. This grouping model could be a combination of pull-out programs, push in support, cluster grouping, homogeneous ability grouping, etc.

| Actions & Services     | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Budget                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Testing/Identification | <p>EUSD will offer testing to any interested student, commencing in Grade 2. Each student will be provided two attempts to establish eligibility.</p> <p>To maximize impact of the testing invitations, teacher recommendations will be utilized.</p> <p>Metrics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation Rate</li> <li>2. Passing Rate</li> </ol> | <p>Testing Licenses:<br/>\$12/student x 450 students = <b>\$5,400</b></p> <p>Proctors: <b>\$1,000</b></p> |

|                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Grouping Model (3-6)                       | <p>EUSD will implement a grouping model where the greatest number of qualified gate students are placed in the least number of classrooms with a GATE certified instructor.</p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parent and Staff Survey</li> <li>2. Master Schedule</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>\$0<br/>(District Office)</p>                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Grouping Model (7-8)                       | <p>EUSD will group all GATE eligible students into clusters in 3 core content areas: ELA, History, and Science. Math is already leveled with an Advanced Math Pathway from 6th - 8th.</p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parent and Staff Survey</li> <li>2. Master Schedule</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>\$0<br/>(District Office)</p>                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Differentiation in the Classroom           | <p>GATE Certified Teachers will implement differentiation through any of the following: curriculum compacting, rigorous learning tasks, passion projects, problem-based learning, and depth and complexity, including the potential use of accelerated literature lists specific to each grade level and/or content area.</p> <p><a href="#">Differentiated instruction may encompass leveled rotation options (e.g. Ivy League)</a></p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Classroom Walkthroughs</li> <li>2. Attendance to GATE Certification Classes</li> </ol> | <p>Certification Costs:<br/>           -\$1,200 for trainer<br/>           -\$300 for materials and resources<br/>           -Offered during PD Day + 4 more hours<br/> <b>TOTAL: \$1,500</b></p> |
| GATE Certification                         | <p>EUSD will continue to provide high-quality GATE Certification opportunities that involve at least 10 hours of class work and a unit plan consisting of differentiated lessons on any subject area spanning 10 days. This will be delivered mostly through PD Days.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation and Certification Rates per Year</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Differentiation Classes for GATE Educators | <p>EUSD will offer “refresher” courses in teaching GATE and Advanced Learners to update educators on best practices for teaching this subgroup.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>\$5,000</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                                                    |                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Planning and Collaboration Times for GATE Teachers | EUSD will provide 1 afternoon planning & collaboration opportunity per Grade Span per trimester for GATE teachers to share lessons and ideas. | Half Day Subs = \$80 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 3: \$240 x 3</li> <li>• Grade 4-6: \$480 x 2 x 3</li> <li>• Grade 7-8: \$320 x 2 x 2</li> </ul> <b>TOTAL: \$4,880</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### GOAL 3: GATE BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

EUSD's GATE Program will provide high quality learning opportunities outside of the instructional day, e.g. before/after school, summer, etc. This set of opportunities will aim to address the wide variety of interests of gifted students and may include language classes, arts, and STEAM-focused clubs.

| Actions & Services               | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Budget                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Before/Afterschool Opportunities | <p>EUSD will maximize after school or before school learning opportunities that align with GATE student interests (History, STEAM, Math Olympiad, etc.) through the utilization of parent volunteers. <a href="#">A process for promoting volunteerism from parents (including eligibility requirements) will be developed and implemented. Some sites will prioritize opportunities within the school day to maximize access.</a></p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Classes offered</li> <li>2. Enrollment/Attendance</li> <li>3. Student Feedback (Survey or Focus Group)</li> </ol> | Site Grant Allocations:<br>\$2,000 - \$3,000 (to pay for materials and stipends)<br><b>TOTAL: \$30,000</b> |
| GATE/High Achievers Summer Camps | The district will continue to implement a GATE/High Achievers Camp, designed for this subgroup but open to all (except struggling students). This shall operate through registration donations to support teacher pay and                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>\$2,000</b>                                                                                             |

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                     | <p>purchase of classroom materials. <a href="#">Parents will be provided more information about what is covered in the course content.</a></p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Variety of classes offered</li> <li>2. Number of Attendees/Registrations</li> <li>3. Feedback</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                  |
| GATE Speaker Series | <p>Through the use of community volunteers, EUSD will provide opportunities for GATE students to explore topics of interest via visiting speakers (if and when available). These opportunities are designed for GATE and high achievers but may be offered to any interested students.</p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of Volunteers secured</li> <li>2. Number of students attending</li> <li>3. Feedback from students</li> <li>4. Number of classes offered</li> </ol>                              | <p>\$0<br/>(District Office)</p>                 |
| STEAM Fair          | <p>EUSD will organize a STEAM Fair annually. This is open to all students but a separate category of competition will be open only to GATE students. This STEAM Fair will include any of the following: Science Essay Content, Science/STEAM Project Contest, Speakers, and Shows.</p> <p><a href="#">STEAM is defined as an interdisciplinary field (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics).</a></p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation Rates</li> <li>2. Event Feedback</li> </ol> | <p>Prizes: Donations (ESF)</p> <p>Shows: \$0</p> |

#### GOAL 4: GATE Program Evaluation and Innovation

EUSD will conduct annual reviews of its GATE program through surveys of GATE parents, students, and educators. It will use the NAGC program standards to assess quality of implementation.

| Actions & Services                               | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Budget                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Continuous Professional Learning                 | <p>EUSD will support (if budget allows) the attendance of 3-5 educators (teachers and administrators) to CAG Conference, NAGC, or Learning and the Brain Conference every other year. Local opportunities are preferred.</p> <p><b>NOTE: 1 per school</b></p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation</li> <li>2. Resources shared within a Drive</li> <li>3. Sharing of key learning during GATE Advisory Council Meetings</li> </ol> | <p>\$2,000 per school (travel, registration fees, subs) x 7 educators.</p> <p><b>TOTAL: \$14,000</b></p> |
| Memberships in Professional Gifted Organizations | <p>GATE Certified Teachers will be strongly encouraged and supported to join NAGC or any other approved gifted organizations (e.g. CAG).</p> <p><b>1 per school</b></p> <p><b>Metrics:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of teachers who are members of CAG or NAGC.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>\$120/member x 7 = <b>\$840</b></p>                                                                   |
| Evaluation - GATE Performance                    | <p>GATE students' assessments will be reviewed annually to identify those who may be "at risk." (<b>"At Risk" means in danger of failing academically or facing significant socioemotional and/or behavioral challenges</b>).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>\$0 (District Office)</p>                                                                             |
| GATE Advisory Council                            | <p>GATE Advisory Council will be organized (parent rep, teacher rep, and administrators) and will meet every semester to discuss GATE program updates, share best practices, explore research, find solutions to challenges, etc.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>\$0 (District Office)</p>                                                                             |
| GATE Advisory Council                            | <p>EUSD will conduct an annual evaluation at all schools with the goal of offering more robust and effective programs based on annual success criteria. A year-one pilot will determine the year-two model, and so on.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>\$0 (District Office)</p>                                                                             |

|  |                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  | EUSD will explore and consider options that include but not be limited to clusters, academies, schools-within-schools, magnet schools, and the like. |  |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

**Total Estimated GATE Budget per Year: \$56,680**

## **GATE CERTIFICATION AND REFRESHER COURSE**

### **GATE CERTIFICATION AT EUSD**

EUSD teachers can obtain GATE Certification via coursework and submitted unit plan. To teach a GATE cluster class or full time ability class at EUSD, a teacher must be GATE certified. A teacher candidate is required to complete the following to be GATE-certified:

1. 10 hours of professional development course work provided by EUSD
2. Submission of a unit plan consisting of lesson plans that are differentiated for GATE students spanning ten days. Submission of this plan is required 3 weeks after completion of Step 1 above.

The topics covered via the GATE classes (see Step 1 above) may include the following. EUSD will utilize 1 PD Day (if available) to offer the first 6 hours of certification course work. Subsequent hours will be offered in the afternoon.

#### **Day 1:**

- **Hour 1-2:** Introduction to Gifted and Talented Education
- **Hour 3-4:** Differentiated Instruction (Part 1: D and C Icons)

#### **Day 2:**

- **Hour 1-2:** Problem-Based Learning, Project-Based Learning and Inquiry-Based Teaching (Passion Projects)
- **Hour 3-4:** Curriculum Development and Modification

#### **Day 3:**

- **Hour 1-2:** Social and Emotional Needs
- **Hour 3-4:** Creativity and Critical Thinking

#### **Day 4:**

- **Hour 1-2:** Technology and Gifted Education
- **Hour 3-4:** Communicating with Parents and Guardians

#### **Day 5:**

- **Hour 1-2:** Classroom Management for Gifted Students
- **Hour 3-4:** Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Gifted Education

These topics may shift or change depending on district needs and changes associated with shifts in GATE population demographics.

The unit plan has no required template, but the lessons described must include evidence of any combination of the following:

1. Differentiation via: Depth and Complexity icons
2. Differentiation via: Curriculum Modifications
3. Inclusion of a Passion Project (Project Based Learning)
4. Utilization of an inquiry-based approach
5. Integration of Problem Based Learning

The unit plan must be structured daily and should include learning objectives, formative and summative assessments, and the differentiated tasks.

### **REFRESHER COURSES**

EUSD may offer refresher courses on the topics of: Differentiated Instruction (Depth and Complexity Icons), Technology and Gifted Education, Curriculum Development and Modifications, and Problem-Based Learning, Project-Based Learning and Inquiry-Based Teaching (Passion Projects).

### **RECERTIFICATION**

A teacher may recertify by retaking the courses offered and submitting a new unit plan. This is assumed to be for the purpose of refreshing content knowledge and teaching skills.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

EUSD may offer professional development opportunities from CAG (California Association of the Gifted), NAGC (National Association of Gifted Children), and Learning and the Brain (San Francisco). These opportunities are subject to availability of funding.

## PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

GATE educators (teachers and administrators) are encouraged to communicate with their site's GATE parents via emails and/or newsletter. It is recommended that teachers also communicate to their GATE parents about learning tasks and opportunities that exist for GATE students in their classrooms and site. Parents should reach out to their students' teachers regarding concerns about GATE before addressing the principal and/or cabinet member at the district level.

GATE Parents may participate in several GATE opportunities. We need your help!

1. Volunteer to be a speaker on a topic of expertise at your classroom/site.
2. Volunteer to be a facilitator for any before and after school opportunities for GATE: Chess Club, Speech and Debate, Math Olympiad, etc.
3. Help fundraise for GATE by connecting with other GATE parents. This needs to be parent-driven.

If you would like to volunteer for #1 and #2 above, please reach out to [gmyers@eurekausd.org](mailto:gmyers@eurekausd.org).

### GATE Parent Nights

EUSD hosts two GATE-oriented Parent Nights:

1. **GATE Information Night:** Anyone can attend this event. EUSD will share information and address questions about its GATE program: WHAT, WHY, WHEN, WHERE, and HOW. This is typically scheduled in the Fall.
2. **“New to GATE” Parent Night:** Only those who have newly-identified GATE students are invited to attend. This will provide an overview of EUSD's GATE Program, profile of the gifted child, research about grouping options, etc. This is typically scheduled in April, once all testing is complete.