



# Torrance Unified School District

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## 3rd Grade GATE Testing Parent Notification

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This fall we will be screening all third grade students for the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program in Torrance Unified School District through the administration of the Naglieri Non-Verbal Abilities Test (NNAT3). This test is a non-verbal assessment of cognitive processing using shapes and design problem solving progressive matrices with no reliance on language or motor skills. Simply put, the student must find the missing piece of each problem in order to complete a pattern. The test is timed, with 48 problems presented in 30 minutes, each a little more difficult than the previous one. The test proctor will not tell students that the test is timed, however they are encouraged to finish as many problems as possible. Our goal is to create a stress-free test environment. Most students find this experience to be enjoyable and equate it to putting together puzzles.

The GATE test will be administered to all third grade students in the district. No form or application for participation in 3rd grade GATE testing is necessary. If you choose to withdraw your student from GATE testing, please complete and sign the form on the reverse side of this letter, then return it to your student's teacher by Friday, September 21, 2018. All 3rd grade students will be administered the GATE test at their school site following the schedule outlined on the reverse side of this letter, unless a signed Withdraw from GATE Testing Form is submitted to your student's teacher by 9/21/2018.

You 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 the last testing session is completed. Students qualify for GATE placement by scoring in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the NNAT3. If your student does not qualify for GATE placement in this initial testing, one more opportunity will be offered in grades 4-5. Please refer to the Gifted & Talented Education link on the District website (via Departments, Educational Services tabs) for more information about GATE identification and services in Torrance Unified School District.

For questions, please contact your school site administrator.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ramona Chang  
Director of Curriculum  
Torrance Unified School District

### 3rd Grade GATE Testing Schedule for 2018-2019

The NNAT3 will be administered at school sites on the designated date below. Students may only participate in testing at the school site in which they are enrolled.

October 17, 2018	October 19, 2018	October 22, 2018
Edison Elementary Seaside Elementary	Fern Elementary Torrance Elementary	Riviera Elementary Walteria Elementary

In the case that a student is absent on the day of testing, make-up testing will be administered at each school site between November 9<sup>th</sup> and November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### Withdraw from GATE Testing Form Grade 3 (2018-2019)

Please note that if you would like your student to participate in 3rd grade GATE testing, no application or form is necessary. Only those who wish to withdraw their student from testing should complete this form and **return it to their student's teacher by Friday, September 21, 2018.**

Name of student: \_\_\_\_\_ Student's date of birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Last First Month Day Year

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

*I would like to withdraw my student from 3rd grade GATE testing. I understand that by signing this, my student will **NOT** be administered the GATE test in 3rd grade and therefore will not have records used in establishing eligibility for the TUSD GATE Program.*

Parent/Guardian name (Please print neatly.): \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year