

Torrance Unified School District

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GEORGE W. MANNON, Ed. D.

4th-5th Grade GATE Testing: Parent Notification & Permission to Test Form

Dear Parent or Guardian:

One of the goals of the TUSD GATE program is to identify students with exceptional abilities, well beyond grade or age expectations. TUSD GATE testing for identification purposes occurs only in grades 3-5.

How do students qualify for TUSD GATE?

There are two qualifiers for placement in the 2018-2019 TUSD GATE Program for 4-5th grade students:

A) Intellectual Category Students scoring at or above the 95th percentile on the TUSD administrated GATE assessment (NNAT3 or OLSAT8) are identified.	B) High-Achievement Category Identification under this category is based on a combination of the scores achieved on both the most recent administrated TUSD GATE assessment (NNAT3 or OLSAT8) and the results from the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) taken during the 2017-2018 school year.
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Who is eligible for TUSD GATE testing?

4-5 th Grade Student Taking TUSD GATE Test for the <u>First Time</u>	4-5 th Grade Student Taking TUSD GATE Test for the <u>Second Time</u>	Student Participated in TUSD GATE Test <u>Twice OR Already Identified TUSD GATE</u>
NNAT3 only	Choice between NNAT3 (or) OLSAT8	Not eligible for further testing.
<u>If your student qualifies for 4-5th grade GATE testing and you would like your student to participate, please complete and sign the permission form on the reverse side of this letter. Submit forms to your student's teacher by November 13, 2018.</u> Unlike the process for universal 3 rd grade testing, 4-5 th grade GATE testing requires parents to submit a signed permission form.		

What are the differences between the NNAT3 and OLSAT8?

NNAT3 (Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test) The NNAT3 is a nonverbal measure used for initial testing in TUSD, and is intended to assess cognitive ability independent of linguistic and cultural background. 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. The NNAT3 is administered through an online platform.	OLSAT8 (Otis Lennon School Ability Test) If your student has previously tested for GATE in TUSD, you now have a choice between the NNAT3 or the OLSAT8. The OLSAT8 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 OLSAT8 is a paper and pencil assessment (scantron and test booklet).
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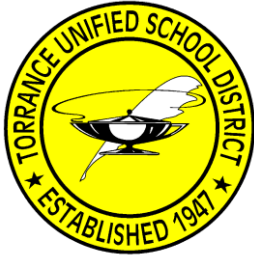
Students who participate in GATE testing will receive a score explanation generated by the test developer, Pearson Education. Along with the score report, you will receive a letter from the district indicating eligibility status for GATE identification. This information will be mailed home approximately 12 weeks after all testing is completed.

Please refer to the GATE link on the district website (under the Departments and Educational Services tabs) for more information regarding GATE identification and services in TUSD. For further questions, please contact your school site administrator.

Sincerely,

Ramona M. Chang

Ramona Chang, Ed.D.
Director of Curriculum



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Please return this page to your student's teacher by November 13, 2018.
No late forms will be accepted.

4-5th Grade GATE Testing Schedule for 2018-2019

The testing window for 4-5th grade GATE testing in TUSD is January 9, 2019 thru January 31, 2019.

Towers will administer the test on Friday, January 18, 2019

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?

NNAT3 OLSAT8

Please note, all initial testing in TUSD is completed using the NNAT3.

If no test preference is indicated or if student is participating in initial testing in TUSD, the NNAT3 will be administered.

Please print clearly.

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

Printed Full Name of Student: _____

School Site: _____ Grade of Student: _____ Teacher: _____

Printed Full Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent email address: _____

Parent Phone Number: () _____ Date: _____