

FSUSD GATE

Critical Thinking = Thoughts You Can't Google

FSUSD: The Beginning

- Small rural schools
- Small “districts” within Fairfield and Suisun
- Voted to form Fairfield-Suisun USD to ease costs (1966?)

FSUSD: The Beginning

- X, Y, Z leveling - 1967
- Mentally Gifted Minors (MGM) - early 1970's
(established in 1961 statewide)
- Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) - 1980 (AB 1040
- allowed districts to establish their own criteria

MGM (1961 - 1980)

- For students scoring in the 98th percentile or above on standardized intellectual ability tests
- Districts used a magnet school model for instruction of students

GATE (1980 - present)

- Biggest change - districts could set their own criteria for identification
- GATE Funding Formula was established

GATE (1980 - present)

Ed Code established:

- Differentiated opportunities for learning
- Alternative learning environments
- Elements that help gifted students develop sensitivity/responsibility to others
- Elements that help gifted students construct ethical standards
- Elements that help gifted students see/learn ways to use problem-solving to help their communities/environments
- Elements that help gifted students develop healthy self-concepts

GATE (FSUSD)

Housed:

- Tolenas and then David Weir ?
- Split into two regional programs(~1993):
 - David Weir, Bransford, Amy Blanc, KI Jones
 - Tolenas, KI Jones
- Programs joined in 2009-2010 during school closures/program cuts

Program Configurations

Elementary and Middle School Magnet

Individual Learning Plan (~2001)

Individual Cluster Plan (2011)

Identification

1. Psychologist, interview, work samples, characteristics
2. Blanket testing - Ravens, Naglieri + academic testing + characteristics

Teachers

1. Selection based on administrator and team choice
2. GATE Certification (2009) required

GATE Training for Teachers

- Conferences
- Certification - 3 magnet teachers (2010)
- FSUSD Summer GATE Institute - 3 days (2011)
- FSUSD GATE Certification - magnet teachers + cluster teachers (2013)

Curriculum - Magnet

- Grades 2-8 (present)
- Grade level standards - CCSS
- Curriculum compacting where needed
- Accelerate in math when appropriate
- Accelerate in reading with Junior Great Books
- Writing across all subjects

Curriculum - Magnet

- Grade Level Focus and Sequence:
 - Icons of Depth and Complexity
 - Content Imperatives
 - Themes
 - Think Like a Disciplinarian
 - Simulations

Curriculum - ICP/ILP

- How can we provide curriculum to students in a non-magnet classroom?
 - Individual Learning Plan
 - Individual Cluster Plan

Parent Involvement

- Magnet GATE Parent Advisory Board
- District GATE Parent Advisory Board
- Site GATE Coordinator

Results of GATE Program

- What % of magnet students graduate from high school? Cluster?
- What % of magnet students go to college? Cluster?
- Where do magnet students go to college? Cluster?