



Mountain Home Public Schools

GATE Update

May 2012



GATE Personnel creates a bi-annual newsletter each year. Our last newsletter was released in December 2011. Newsletters can be found at http://bombers.k12.ar.us/gate/gate_update.htm

It has been an exciting year! GATE students have worked hard this school year. We enjoy working with the students. It is rewarding to see them grow and succeed. Each campus will highlight a few activities from the 2011-12 school year.

NELSON WILKS HERRON

Cristy Neighbors, GATE Teacher
Nelson Wilks Herron Elementary
Grades 1-2
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Congratulations to Darren Blount from Mrs. Wedgeworth's class for winning the NWH Chess Tournament of Champions and to runner-up Weston Cox from Mrs. Corp's class. Each 2nd grade student participated in the classroom tournament with each class champion going on to compete in the Tournament of Champions. All of the students showed tremendous skill and sportsmanship during the tournament. We are proud of our students at NWH!



HACKLER INTERMEDIATE

Marsha Partney, GATE Teacher
Hackler Intermediate School
Grades 3-5
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Hunter Preis, fourth grade GATE student, has completed Mrs. Partney's Knowledge Quest! The Quest was available for fourth and fifth grade GATE students who wanted to accept a difficult challenge, and it was completely voluntary. The students were to memorize and take a test on each of the following to earn a "gem" for their treasure box: United States Presidents, Periodic Table of Elements, States and Capitals, bones of the body, fractions/decimals/ percents chart, and the World Map. Hunter was the only student who completed and passed all 6 tests! Hunter was awarded a big prize for his hard work! Congratulations Hunter Preis! Knowledge Quest continues next year, so GATE students can study all summer in their spare time!



PINKSTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Kristi Nelson, GATE Teacher
Pinkston Middle School/MHJH
Grades 6-8
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This year GATE students at Pinkston have been tackling hands-on service projects and have claimed two championships. The Pinkston Quiz Bowl team won the Ozarka Quiz Bowl Competition and Kaci Yancey and Cara Conner entered the Youth Entrepreneur Showcase, became finalists, and competed for top prizes in Little Rock at the Park Plaza Mall. They had to create a marketable product, a kiosk, and a complete business plan to present to the judges. The Pinkston team won first place honors in two categories- "Best Product", and "Best Business Plan". They both won trophies for each category and also cash prizes.



The seventh grade GATE Explore class has been busy with their service projects at Pinkston. They have spruced up the north entrance of the building with a mural, bird feeders, and also have repainted the old red and white trash cans by the bus loading area Bomber blue! The first semester Explore class made blue and gold chess boards for NWH chess players in Ms. Neighbor's classroom, and developed their own "APPS". The students have learned that community service is hard work, but the outcomes can be pretty spectacular.



MOUNTAIN HOME JUNIOR HIGH

On Monday, May 21st, 8th grade GT Students celebrated "Go Green Day" at the Cardinals Stadium in Springfield, MO. We learned about recycling and then watched the Cardinals play Tulsa.

MOUNTAIN HOME HIGH

This month gifted students took Advanced Placement (AP) Exams. It was their time to shine and apply their knowledge. AP test results will be delivered to students the 3rd week of July.



WHAT TO EXPECT FOR 2012-13

Gifted children are as different from each other as they are from other children. They need differing amounts of homogeneous grouping at various stages of development and as their interests change. During 2012-13, MHPS will offer the following GATE program options.

Whole Group Enrichment Grades K-2: Kindergarten Teachers have been trained in *Talents Unlimited*. *Talents Unlimited* training is an Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) approved differentiation workshop. Ms. Neighbors works with the classroom teachers to design enrichment curriculum for the whole class. The delivery of services to students is at least 30 minutes a week.

Gifted Education Resource Rooms Grades 3-7: Gifted students may participate in resource room classes in which they receive instructional services different from those normally provided in the regular classroom. They have the opportunity to work at the level of their abilities and in their area of interest or talent. In grades 3-5, instruction is delivered by Mrs. Marsha Partney. In grades 6-7, instruction is delivered by Mrs. Kristi Nelson. GT students attend class in the resource room for at least 150 minutes per week.

Pre-Advanced Placement Classes Grades 7-12: According to the College Board: Pre-AP courses are taught by highly qualified teachers who use the Pre-AP Course descriptions to guide them. Pre-AP classes are based on two important premises. The first is the expectation that all students can perform well at rigorous academic levels. All students are consistently being challenged to expand their knowledge and skills to the next level. The second important premise of Pre-AP is the belief that the middle, junior high, and high school years can provide a powerful opportunity to help all students acquire the knowledge, concepts, and skills needed to engage in a higher level of learning.

Seminar Class Grades 8-12: Gifted students meet once a month for enrichment and affective needs as well as study skills. This class will help identified gifted students to prepare for post high school. Mrs. Marsha Partney will serve as the GT Teacher for grades 8-12 grades.

AP Courses Grades 10-12:

According to the College Board: AP courses are taught by highly qualified high school teachers who use the AP Course descriptions to guide them. The Course descriptions for each discipline outlines the course content, describes the curricular goals of the subject, and provides sample examination questions. AP teachers have the flexibility to determine how this content is presented.

In August, Grades 3-12 specific building schedules will be available through each school office or the building GATE teacher.



**WE WANT FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS, PARENTS,
TEACHERS AND ALL STAKEHOLDERS!**

To provide feedback, please complete a GATE Survey.

Visit: http://bombers.k12.ar.us/gate/survey/survey_index.htm



WELCOME NEW STUDENTS!
We welcome 23 new students to the GATE Program!



Back to School Picnic in Cooper Park
Let's get together!

When: Friday, August 3rd, 2012

Where: Cooper Park Pavilion and Playground

Time: 5:30-6:30

Bring your own picnic to enjoy with your family.
This will be a nice time to network and get acquainted
with our new students.

For more information about the GATE Program, please contact:
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Have a great summer break!

