GATE Identification and the IEP Process

GATE District Advisory Committee
May 8, 2017

Current GATE Identification

- Approx. 12,000 students a year are tested.
- ► Who is tested:
 - All second graders (some exceptions)
 - Students new to the district (Third, fourth, and fifth grades)
 - Re-test Fifth grade students if:
 - They scored above the 85%ile (CogAt/Raven) with TWO Advanced SBAC scores or
 - GATE cluster students scored TWO Advanced test scores

CogAT

- ► The CogAT screening is the District approved GATE assessment instrument for grades 2 5.
- The CogAT is a psychometrically sound, norm-referenced cognitive webbased assessment tool.
- The CogAT provides 3 subtests (Raven was 1 subtest) that measure non-verbal abilities, quantitative abilities, and verbal abilities.
- This test provides a more comprehensive assessment of fluid and crystallized intelligence while maintaining the ability to test diverse learners through non-verbal abilities.
- The test takes up to 60-90 minutes to proctor.
- Results are provided by HMH and are uploaded into the multi-criterion formula at the completion of the school site testing window.

Second Grade Sample Questions:



https://www.hmhco.com/~/media/sites/home/hmh-assessments/assessments/cogat/pdf/cogat-cognitively-speaking-v7-aug-2011.pdf?la=en

Analogies

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Exceptional Students

- ► GATE identification does not directly impact the student's IEP. However, IEP's inform GATE teachers about the impact of the disability in accessing gen. ed., learning preferences/modalities, specific areas of strengths and needs, etc.
- In California, GATE identification is supported through General Education programs and services.
- ▶ IEP Federally and state funded services based on eligibility.
- 504 General Education focus on access.

Additional Factors

- ▶ Points added for:
 - English Learners with a CELDT score at or below Intermediate
 - ► Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds
 - ► Students with IEP's/504
 - ► Relocation (homeless, military, foster, etc.)

Testing Criteria and Appeals

- Results are shared via letters home to parents.
- ► There is an appeal process for teams to examine data that may not be captured by the multi-criterion process.
- ▶ Parents or school staff can request an appeal. School site teams review all student data including but not limited to grades, test scores, formative assessment, teacher input, parent input, and any other additional factors that may impact a students performance.
- Results from the appeal process are provided to the parent by the school site.

Where are we now?

- ▶ We are in the second year of the process and it is going well.
- ► SDUSD IT department built the multi-criterion process to allow for the inclusion of various databases.
 - ▶ Updating with SBAC scores as they become available.
 - ► Factors are analyzed and updated yearly by the Office of Leadership and Learning.
 - School psychology dept. and the Office of Leadership and Learning continue to collaborate.
 - ► Revise outdated GATE District Policy and Procedure

Questions...

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