



June 17, 2016

Dear Families,

The San Diego Unified School District implemented a new protocol for gifted and talented identification beginning 2015-2016 school-year. Over the last (4) years, this process has evolved through research, collaboration, and new technology. Many components of the previous system have been maintained, while additional data points were added. These data points, within a multiple matrix; include achievement, ability, under-achievement, language, and other sub group factors. With any new system, it is essential to evaluate and improve throughout the process. New data points will be added to the matrix as they become available and may include; state testing and parent-teacher ratings.

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAt) was administered to students in grades 2 through 5 during Spring 2016. In the past, the GATE identification letter reported a single score. The new system incorporates the multiple data points from the matrix and provides an identification category.

Upon examining the results, there were students who were on the cusp of being identified for GATE program placement. These scores will undergo *further review* over the next (2) months. Following the district's review, a notification will be sent to families should a student's GATE identification change.

This new system/protocol will be monitored and assessed for continual improvement. We appreciate your patience through this process and are confident that we will have a strong identification process to support our GATE students.

For questions and information on GATE programming identification, please visit the GATE website at: [sandi.net/gate](http://sandi.net/gate).

Sincerely,

  
Stephanie Ceminsky  
Program Manager, GATE