



APAAS INFORMATION

February 2009

Dear Parents of 3rd – 5th grade students,

On Monday, February 23rd, the Irvine Unified School District is holding an APAAS (Alternative Program for Academically Accelerated Students) orientation meeting at Oak Creek Elementary School, 1 Dove Creek, Irvine, CA 92618, 6-8 p.m. An overview of the program will be shared throughout the evening. If you have questions regarding APAAS, please attend this meeting for clarification.

APAAS is intended to benefit those students whose capacity for intellectual achievement and need for acceleration go beyond what could be provided in a GATE- clustered class. The six APAAS sites are Brywood, Deerfield, Eastshore, Santiago Hills, Turtle Rock, and Westpark (year round).

Students successful in the APAAS program are individuals who have a high level of curiosity, need to work at a more accelerated pace in all subjects, and manage their time well to complete assignments. APAAS students benefit from working with others who are like-minded, prefer handling more difficult assignments, and are comfortable with expressing their ideas in writing.

Important APAAS Information

- Required applications will be available at the meeting on February 23, 2009 and on our GATE website (http://www.iusd.org/parent_resources/gate/gate.htm) beginning February 24, 2009. Applications are due in the GATE office no later than March 20, 2009 - no exceptions.
- Classroom visitations are not available. If you have specific questions about a particular site, please attend the February 23rd meeting to receive clarification. There will be breakout sessions for parents to meet the APAAS principals and teachers and receive information regarding specific APAAS sites.
- Qualifying students will most likely be placed at the APAAS site closest to his/her residence. Parents will need to prioritize the APAAS site their child would be able to attend if closest site is not offered as a choice **and** write an "X" by all sites student is **unable to attend**.

Minimum criteria for APAAS consideration includes:

1. **Academic achievement in which student has earned a B or higher in all academic subjects on 2nd trimester report cards,**
2. **CST standardized test scores in proficient or advanced range in both English Language Arts and Math,**
3. **Ability for student to achieve success with consistently high expectations, rigor, and an accelerated pace in all subjects.**

Placement for 2009-10 will be confirmed in May, 2009.

If you have additional questions, please review the FAQ's on our web site at http://www.iusd.org/parent_resources/gate/gate.htm

**REMINDER – APPLICATIONS DUE IN IUSD GATE OFFICE
NO LATER THAN MARCH 20, 2009**