



Spring Branch Academic Institute



November 30, 2020

Secondary Issue 13

Congratulations Allie Weinhardt

Allie earned a full plate at Thanksgiving by finishing 80th in the State of Texas Girls 6A Cross Country Meet Tuesday. She finished 16th in the state of Texas among freshmen. We are proud of your hard work, dedication, and early wake ups to put yourself in such an elite crowd.

Moon Pod Essay Contest

IMAGINE LEADING A ONE-WEEK EXPEDITION ON THE MOON AND WRITE AN ESSAY THAT TELLS NASA ALL ABOUT IT. NASA is taking remote learning to the Moon! 2020 has been a year of working and living at a distance. Now consider what it might be like if you were living with a pod of astronauts 250,000 miles from Earth. Your challenge is to imagine leading a one-week expedition at the Moon's South Pole – with the whole world cheering you on.

Spelling Bee

The SBAI secondary spelling bee will be December 1 at SFMS room F101 at 8:40. Mr. Lefeber sent a confirmation email to families and Ms. Treleven to students who are registered. Contact Ms. Treleven immediately if you turned in a permission slip but were not contacted.

SFMS Basketball Tryout Dates:

Middle school basketball tryouts are scheduled for after Thanksgiving. Girls tryouts are December 1, 2, 3, and 4. Eighth grade at 6:45 am and 7th grade at 4:00. Boys are December 7, 8, 9, and 10. Eighth grade boys at 4:00, 7th grade 6:45.

SHS Yearbook Pictures

December 3 is SHS yearbook picture make ups. Virtual may come between 3:00 – 4:00 and will need to fill out health screener before coming on campus. In-person learners will not be taken through a class, so if they want to have their portrait taken they will need to pre-arrange and/or get teacher permission.

Absences and early pick up

Please call and email attendance clerks
SFMS 713.251.4604, Ms. Razo [email](#)
SHS 713.251.3406 Ms. Cardoza [email](#)
Also, email Ms. Helfer and Mr. Lefeber

Upcoming Events k

- Nov 30** SHS Soccer tryouts begin 3:00
- Dec 1** 1. SFMS Free Dress Day \$5
2. SBAI Secondary Spelling Bee
SFMS F101 8:40
- Dec 3** 1. SHS picture day make up
2. SHS Orchestra Winter Orchestra
Concert 8:00 pm cafeteria
- Dec 5** giftED Parent Conference
- Dec 7** SFMS picture day make up
- Dec 8** SHS Choir Winter Choir Concert
7:00 pm, site TBD
- Dec 9** SHS Band Winter Band Concert
8:00 pm, site TBD
- Dec 12** Ms. Craddock Retirement
Celebration, 10:00 am
- Dec 13** SHS Choir Wassail Dinner, 5:00 pm
Norris Conference Center
- Dec 15** SHS Final exams begin
- Dec 17** Moon Pod Essay Contest Due
- Dec 18** End of second nine weeks
- Dec 19** **Winter Break begins**
- Jan 5** Students return to instruction
- Jan 8** SBAI Science Fair
- Jan 12** SFMS Talent Show auditions
- Jan 15** Eighth grade yearbook ads due
- Jan 18** **Student Holiday**
- Jan 19-22** Secondary Iowa Tests
- Jan 21** SHS Incoming Freshmen Meeting
- Jan 22** HS Choir Solo and Ensemble
- Jan 23** District 14-6A Swimming
- Jan 29** 1. District Spelling Bee
2. SHS Playhouse *Nunsense* 7:30
Queensbury Theatre
- Feb 6** 1. Region 5-6A Swimming Finals
2. SHS Playhouse *Nunsense* 7:30
- Feb 15** **Student Holiday**
- Feb 26** Men's State Swimming 6A Prelims
- Mar 12** End of third nine weeks
- Mar 15-19** **Spring Break**
- Mar 30** HS JV Orchestra String UIL
- Apr 2** 1. **Student Holiday**
2. SHS Playhouse *Something
Rotten*, Zilkha Hall 7:30
- Apr 6** English I EOC, STAAR Writing 4 & 7

giftED Parent Conference

Families are invited to attend giftED20 on December 5, 2020 for just \$59, which includes up to 10 hours of family-specific programming in the Family Track and opportunity to visit exhibitors. Access to recordings is available through December 31. Learn more at: <https://tagtconference.org/families/>

Ms. Craddock Retirement Celebration

Bittersweet congratulations to Ms. Craddock. We are excited for you on your next adventure, but we will miss you. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, December 12 at 10:00 am for a celebration of Ms. Craddock. Details to come.

SHS Band Fundraiser

The Stratford High School Band & Guard is selling tamales for the holiday. Tamales are handmade in four flavors - pork, spicy pork, chicken, and vegetarian - and delivered HOT on Saturday, December 12 for \$15 / dozen. (SHS staff may choose to have tamales delivered Friday, December 11.)

The band appreciates your support and hopes you would like to enjoy some delicious tamales.

Orders are live through Friday, December 4, at this link:

<https://stratfordband.com/fundraising/tamaleform/>

Stratford Final Exams

Attached is the fall final exam schedule starting December 15. To maintain test security, all students will take final exams in person. Virtual students who are concerned about attending school should work with their teachers. The afternoon of December 16, 17, and 18 are times for voluntary tutorials, in person or virtually. It is also a time for virtual students to take exams if they want to avoid contact as much as possible.

Eighth-Grade Dedication Ads

Deadline to buy a Yearbook Ad is Friday, January 15. 1/8 Page Ad = \$25, 1/4 Page Ad = \$50, 1/2 Page Ad = \$100. If you have already purchased a Yearbook AD, Mrs. Rasberry will send out a separate email regarding when Yearbook AD designs need to be turned in. Contact Mrs. Rasberry @ 713-251-4696 or faralyn.rasberry@springbranchisd.com if you have any questions.

Patriot Paws

SFMS PTA will also be fundraising for Patriot Paws at Texas A&M, as we have for the last 6 years! Patriot Paws is a foundation that raises money to train service dogs to give to disabled American veterans. These dogs help them to overcome and cope with PTSD, and other disabilities. Because of generous donations, like the ones from SFMS, the service dogs can be provided to veterans at no cost. We will not be able to collect money at school as usual, but please consider an online donation at <https://patriotpaws.org>. Click on "DONATE", Go to Honor A Veteran, Enter "SFMS Veteran" instead of an actual first/last name...You can skip the address if you'd like.

2020-2021 Yearbooks

Order your 2020-2021 Yearbook Today, <https://www.balfour.com/shop/yearbook?smi=74036>

Yearbook Photos

Ms. Raspberry, Yearbook Advisor, is looking for some photos from distance learning students. Normally the yearbook students take photos during school, but of course, they want to include the distance learning students in this year's yearbook as well. She wants the photos you have from Distance Learning - First day of school, Distance Learning – class at home, and Red Ribbon Week photos from everyone. Please email Faralyn.Raspberry@springbranchisd.com. Thank you for your help!

Go Guardian

SBAI teachers are using Go Guardian during their classes to monitor the tabs students have open while they should be engaged in learning. Virtual students must use their SBISD Chromebook during Zoom classes. Middle school students who have Chromebook issues need to go to SFMS to get issues resolved. Please call ahead 713.251.4600. High school students with issues should contact Ms. Helfer and Mr. Lefeber.

Financial Aid Workshops

There are two series of workshops SBISD is offering for post-secondary planning, *Parent U FINANCIAL AID INFO SESSION* and *Planning for the Future T-2-4 Series*. See attachments at the end of the newsletter.

COVID Dashboard

The [COVID Dashboard](#) provides a summary of active, test-confirmed COVID-19 cases involving SBISD students and staff members as reported to the District. Totals reflect those participating in any on-campus activity. For more information associated with SBISD's health and safety protocols regarding COVID-19, including isolation, quarantine, and reporting, please refer to the [District's LearnSBISD plan](#).

SHS Student Parking

I cannot believe this is needed for our newsletter. Stratford is selling 2020-21 parking passes for juniors and seniors. Click on this link for [parking information and regulations](#). Sophomore passes go on sale in late Fall; I was told it would be in October.

CIS Newsletter

Communities In Schools is a 501 (C3) non-profit organization that partners with schools, colleges or independent school districts for the purpose of addressing the barriers to success (academic and non-academic needs) faced by students and/or their families within the campus community. Please see the August/September newsletter at the end of the newsletter.

SFMS PTA/Campus Communication

We encourage all families to join SFMS's PTA. To receive regular details from SFMS, click on the link and add your email address to get the [SFMS PTA e-blast](#). Please read the e-Blast and this newsletter to stay informed.

Stratford PTSA/Campus Communication

We encourage all families to join SHS's PTSA. Parents, please stay informed with upcoming events. To receive regular details from SHS, click on the link and add your email address to [Sign Up for Spartan Scoop](#). Please read the [PTA information](#) and this newsletter to stay informed.

Spring Forest Middle School Bell Schedule Monday, Tuesday, and Friday

A Lunch

1st Period 8:40 AM – 9:34 AM
2nd Period 9:38 AM – 10:32 AM
3rd Period 10:36 AM – 11:30 AM
LUNCH 11:34 AM – 12:04 PM
4th Period 12:08 PM – 1:02 PM
5th Period 1:06 PM – 2:00 PM
6th Period 2:04 PM – 2:58 PM
7th Period 3:02 PM – 3:55 PM

B Lunch

1st Period 8:40 AM – 9:34 AM
2nd Period 9:38 AM – 10:32 AM
3rd Period 10:36 AM – 11:30 AM
4th Period 11:34 AM – 12:28 PM
LUNCH 12:32 PM – 1:02 PM
5th Period 1:06 PM – 2:00 PM
6th Period 2:04 PM – 2:58 PM
7th Period 3:02 PM – 3:55 PM

C Lunch

1st Period 8:40 AM – 9:34 AM
2nd Period 9:38 AM – 10:32 AM
3rd Period 10:36 AM – 11:30 AM
4th Period 11:34 AM – 12:28 PM
5th Period 12:32 PM – 1:26 PM
LUNCH 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM
6th Period 2:04 PM – 2:58 PM
7th Period 3:02 PM – 3:55 PM

SBAI Bell and Bus Schedule

1st Period 8:40 AM – 9:35 AM
2nd Period 9:40 AM – 10:35 AM
3rd Period 10:40 AM – 11:30 AM
4th Period 11:35 AM – 12:25 PM OR 12:15 – 1:05
5th Period 12:30 PM – 1:20 PM
OR 1:10 PM – 2:00 PM
6th Period 2:05 PM – 2:55 PM
7th Period 3:00 PM – 3:55 PM

Bus 8:30 SFMS → SHS

Bus 9:25 SHS → SFMS; 9:39 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 10:23 SHS → SFMS; 10:37 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 11:21 SHS → SFMS; 11:35 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 12:09 SFMS → SHS; **12:19 SHS → SFMS** (RT)

Bus 12:33 SFMS → SHS; ~~12:53 SHS → SFMS~~ (RT)

Bus 1:07 SFMS → SHS; **1:17 SHS → SFMS** (RT)

Bus 1:51 SHS → SFMS; 2:05 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 2:49 SHS → SFMS; 3:03 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 3:45 SHS → SFMS

Spring Forest Middle School Wednesday Bell Schedule

A Lunch

1st Period 8:40 AM – 10:17 AM
3rd Period 10:21 AM – 11:59 AM
LUNCH 12:03 PM – 12:33 PM
5th Period 12:37 PM – 2:14 PM
7th Period 2:18 PM – 3:55 PM

B Lunch

1st Period 8:40 AM – 10:17 AM
3rd Period 10:21 AM – 11:59 AM
5th Period 12:03 AM – 12:45 PM
LUNCH 12:45 PM – 1:15 PM
5th Period 1:19 PM – 2:14 PM
7th Period 2:18 PM – 3:55 PM

C Lunch

1st Period 8:40 AM – 10:17 AM
3rd Period 10:21 AM – 11:59 AM
5th Period 12:03 PM – 1:30 PM
LUNCH 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM
5th Period 2:04 PM – 2:14 PM
7th Period 2:18 PM – 3:55 PM

SBAI Bell and Bus Schedule

1st Period 8:40 AM – 10:15 AM
3rd Period 10:20 AM – 11:50 AM
5th Period 12:40 PM – 2:10 PM
7th Period 2:15 PM – 3:55 PM

Bus 8:30 SFMS → SHS

Bus 10:08 SHS → SFMS; 10:22 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 11:50 SHS → SFMS

12:38 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 2:05 SHS → SFMS; 2:18 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 3:45 SHS → SFMS

Spring Forest Middle School Thursday Bell Schedule

A Lunch

2nd Period 8:40 AM – 10:17 AM
Advisory 10:21 AM – 11:59 AM
LUNCH 12:03 PM – 12:33 PM
4th Period 12:37 PM – 2:14 PM
6th Period 2:18 PM – 3:55 PM

B Lunch

2nd Period 8:40 AM – 10:17 AM
Advisory 10:21 AM – 11:59 AM
4th Period 12:03 AM – 12:45 PM
LUNCH 12:45 PM – 1:15 PM
4th Period 1:19 PM – 2:14 PM
6th Period 2:18 PM – 3:55 PM

C Lunch

2nd Period 8:40 AM – 10:17 AM
Advisory 10:21 AM – 11:59 AM
4th Period 12:03 PM – 1:30 PM
LUNCH 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM
4th Period 2:04 PM – 2:14 PM
6th Period 2:18 PM – 3:55 PM

SBAI Bell and Bus Schedule

2nd Period 8:40 AM – 10:15 AM
Advisory 10:20 AM – 11:50 AM
4th Period 12:40 PM – 2:10 PM
6th Period 2:15 PM – 3:55 PM

Bus 8:30 SFMS → SHS

Bus 10:08 SHS → SFMS; 10:22 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 11:50 SHS → SFMS

12:38 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 2:05 SHS → SFMS; 2:18 SFMS → SHS (RT)

Bus 3:45 SHS → SFMS

Stratford High School Bell Schedule

November 30 B-Day	December 1 A-Day	2 B	3	4 B Progress Report
7 A	8 B	9 A	10 B	11 A
14 B	15	16	17	18
Finals				

Regular Schedule

Period 1/2 7:45-9:10

Period 3/4 9:16-10:41

Spartan Time 10:47-11:27

A lunch- 11:27-11:57

(Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Lang. office aide/Study Hall)

Period 5/6 12:03-1:28

Period 5/6 11:33-12:58

(English, Athletics, Guthrie, Fine Arts, CTE)

B lunch- 12:58-1:28

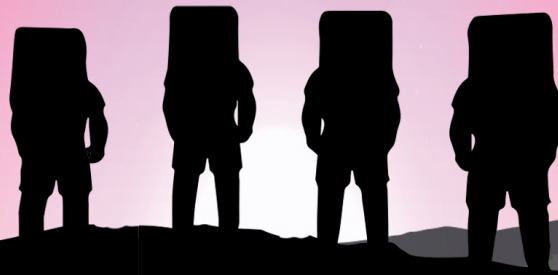
Period 7/8 1:34-3:00

FUTURE ENGINEERS PRESENTS



MOON POD ESSAY CONTEST

ENTRY DEADLINE: DEC 17, 2020



**K-12 STUDENTS! SUBMIT AN ESSAY
AND YOU COULD**



**ATTEND A VIRTUAL EVENT
WITH AN ASTRONAUT**



**WIN A TRIP TO NASA
(SUMMER OF 2021)**



**WIN A TRIP TO A LAUNCH
(FALL OF 2021)**

*EVERYONE
WHO
SUBMITS!*

Sign up for the contest (it's free!), learn about the moon, and submit your essay at:

www.futureengineers.org/artemismoonpodessay

(TEACHERS CAN SIGN UP AN ENTIRE CLASS!)

IN SUPPORT OF
NASA'S ARTEMIS PROGRAM



Stratford HS Final Exam Schedule Fall 2020

NON-TEST DAYS

Friday, Dec. 11
Monday, Dec. 14

"A" Day
"B" Day

Tuesday, Dec. 15

7:45–9:45 Period 1 *Exam

10:00–12:00 Period 3 *Exam

12:00 – 12:30	A Lunch
12:06 – 1:15	Period 5 Class
12:36 – 1:45	Period 5 Class
1:15 – 1:45	B Lunch

1:51–3:00 Period 7 Class

Wednesday, Dec. 16

7:45–9:45 Period 2 *Exam

10:00–12:00 Period 4 *Exam

12:00 – 12:15 Grab & Go Lunch

12:15 Buses Leave

1:00 – 2:00 6th Period Class
2:05 – 3:00 8th Period Class

Thursday, Dec. 17

7:45–9:45 Period 5 *Exam

10:00–12:00 Period 7 *Exam

12:00 – 12:15 Grab & Go Lunch

12:15 Buses Leave

1:00 – 2:00 1st Period Class
2:05 – 3:00 3rd Period Class

Friday, Dec. 18

7:45–9:45 Period 6 *Exam

10:00–12:00 Period 8 *Exam

12:00 – 12:15 Grab & Go Lunch

12:15 Buses Leave

**All students must clear the building
@ 12:15 unless staying for tutorials
or make-up exams**

- Students must stay the entire class period during classes and finals.
- Students needing to stay on campus can attend their review session in person with teachers if needed. Parents must request this in advance
- By district policy, no final exams may be given early.



Stratford Band & Guard **HOLIDAY TAMALE SALE**

PORK, SPICY PORK, CHICKEN OR VEGGIE
\$15 / DOZEN

Last Day to Purchase - Friday, Dec. 4
Drive Thru Pick-Up @ SHS - Saturday, Dec. 12

Order On-Line at
StratfordBand.com



SFMS Nurse Brown & Nurse P

TIPS TO BUILD & STRENGTHEN YOUR FAMILY'S IMMUNITY

Vitamin D is essential to immune function and helps regulate the body's immune response. Vitamin D is found in salmon, canned tuna, egg yolks, and yogurt. Your body can also synthesize vitamin D with just 13-15 minutes of sunshine three times a week.

Consuming foods high in **Vitamin C** such as grapefruits, oranges, tangerines, sweet red pepper, broccoli, strawberries, kale, and kiwifruit are thought to increase white blood cell production, which is key to fighting infection.

Beta-carotene converts into **Vitamin A**, which is an anti-inflammatory vitamin that can help your antibodies, respond to toxins, such as a virus. Carrots, spinach, kale, apricots, sweet potato, squash, and cantaloupe are all great sources of beta-carotene. Vitamin A is a fat-soluble vitamin, so consuming foods with healthy fats will aid in its absorption.

Immune system cells need **Zinc** to function as they are intended. Zinc is a mineral that our body does not store or produce. While oysters have the highest food content of zinc, there are several other options such as shellfish (crab, clams, lobster, and mussels), poultry (chicken or turkey), red meat and beans. Zinc is also found in fortified cereals and some breads, but the best absorption comes from animal-based foods.

Vitamin E is a fat-soluble vitamin that is key in regulating and supporting immune system function. Foods rich in vitamin E include nuts, seeds, avocado, and spinach.

Green Tea is packed with antioxidants that have been shown to enhance immune system function. It also contains amino acids that may aid in the production of germ-fighting compounds in your T-cells, which reduces inflammation in the body and helps fight infection. Green tea can be consumed hot, cold or as matcha powder.

Wash Hands Regularly

Drink Water & Stay Hydrated

Water helps produce lymph which carries white blood cells and other immune system cells through the body. There are many foods with high water content such as cucumbers, watermelon, and celery. If you have a hard time drinking plain water, try a cup of green tea with lemon, watermelon, cucumber or mint-infused water for an immune system powerhouse beverage.

Probiotics and an immune boosting essential oils called thieves oil & oregano.

YOGURT CONTAINS LIVE CULTURES

ALSO KNOWN AS
PROBIOTICS, WHICH ARE
THOUGHT TO HELP STIMULATE
THE IMMUNE SYSTEM TO
FIGHT OFF DISEASE.

SHS Chromebook Trouble Shooting Help

[SHS Chromebook Expectations](#)

[How to log into your Chromebook](#)

[Checklist for common issues](#)

[Connecting to SBISD wifi](#)

[Clearing the Cache](#)

[Update Chrome OS](#)

[Itslearning Log in Error](#)

[Lost/Stolen Form](#)

Questions to ask College Admission Reps

Admission

1. What admission requirements have changed due to Covid-19?
2. What is the average high school GPA of the entering freshman class?
3. Is the ACT or SAT required?
4. Will you accept transfer credits?

Financial Aid

5. When is the priority deadline for financial aid applications?
6. How many students receive financial aid?
7. Are there separate deadlines for admission and scholarship applications?
8. Are there opportunities for on-campus employment?

Academics

9. What is distinctive about education here?
10. What is the most popular major on campus? Why?
11. Are any new programs scheduled for the next four years?
12. What is the quality of student and faculty relationships? Is the faculty interested in accessible to students after class? Do faculty members participate in student activities?
13. What support services are available?

Campus Life

14. How has your campus adjusted to the Covid-19 Pandemic?
15. What are the housing options for freshmen?
16. How would you assess safety on campus, and where can I get more information?
17. How would you characterize the majority of students?

18. What role do team sports play in the social life of the college?

19. What is the role of fraternities and sororities on campus? If I didn't want to join, could I have a satisfactory social life?

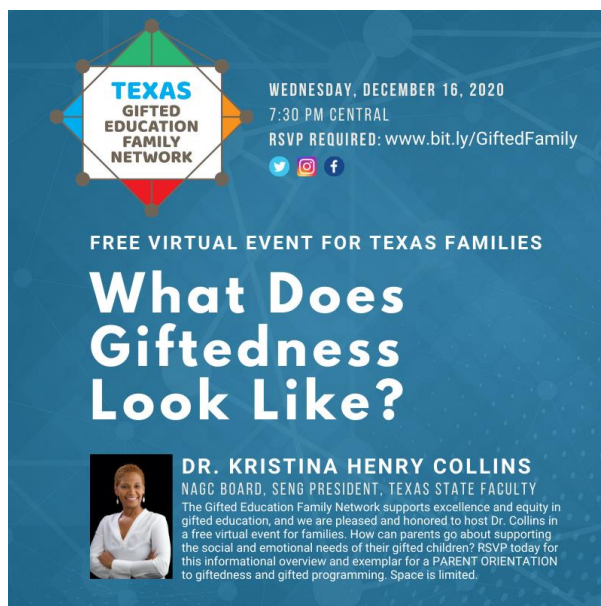
Career Readiness

20. Is there a department that assists students in finding internships?

21. Is there job placement help for graduates?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see below for exciting event opportunities for GT families across Texas!



December 16 ~ Free Virtual Event

“What Does Giftedness Look Like?” ~ Dr. Kristina Henry Collins

How can parents go about supporting the social and emotional needs of their gifted children? Our speaker, Dr. Kristina Henry Collins, is a [NAGC Board Member](#), President of [SENG](#), faculty at [Texas State University](#), and a Professional Advisor for the [Gifted Education Family Network](#). This presentation serves as an informational overview and exemplar for a PARENT ORIENTATION to giftedness and gifted programming through the use of book study/round-table discussions. Space is limited! [Reserve your spot today](#) for this free virtual event on Wednesday, December 16, 7:30pm - 8:45pm. RSVP required. Share the graphic above, and invite your Texas GT parent friends! RSVP link: <https://forms.gle/TdcsDZbyCT5ht7Tq9>

January 30, 2021 ~ Virtual Event

2nd Annual GT Parent Conference, Baylor Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development

Save the date for Saturday, January 30, 2021! The Gifted Education Family Network is excited to support the 2nd Annual GT Parent Conference at Baylor University. This year's event will be virtual and at a minimum cost. Planning to attend? What sessions do you want to see? Please share your needs and interests to help Baylor determine session topics. [Take the survey here — your input is needed.](#)

VIRTUAL STUDENT ENRICHMENT

For many Texas students, face-to-face enrichment is not an option at this time. In addition to our [COVID-19 resources](#), we are excited to share additional upcoming opportunities:

Virtual “Super Saturdays in December” for 4th-12th graders

Offered by Baylor Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development

Baylor is offering an online enrichment program for gifted and talented children in grades 4–12! Students can choose from a variety of six-hour classes taught by experienced educators. Classes are offered online from 9:30–11:30 a.m. over three Saturdays. For a flyer with more information on the classes offered, please visit the [Super Saturdays website at the Baylor Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development](#).

Early Next Year!

GEFN Enrichment Day with NuMinds

GEFN will be partnering with NuMinds Enrichment to offer an opportunity for creative play at home in January. [Subscribe to our e-newsletter](#) to get an invitation and reminder.

GT EQUITY, SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Interview with Dr. Joy Lawson Davis: Equity in GT

New on our blog

We launched our new blog, [Excellence and Equity](#), and we are thrilled to share our first post: an [interview with GT expert Dr. Joy Lawson Davis](#)! Dr. Davis discusses the importance of equity and diversity in gifted education, the challenges faced by gifted students of color, and specific action steps that GT parents and GT parent groups can take to address equity in their districts. With over 40 years in the field, books by Dr. Davis include the award-winning [Bright, Talented, & Black: A Guide for Families of African American Gifted Learners](#) (author), [Gifted Children of Color Around the World: Diverse Needs, Exemplary Practices and Directions for the Future](#) (co-edited with Dr. James L. Moore III), and *No More Dreams Deferred: Breaking the Barriers to Self-Advocacy for Underserved Gifted Learners* (forthcoming, co-edited with Deb Douglas), among other publications.

Virtual Parent Support Group

Express your interest and ideas in our survey

Are you looking for a safe place to exchange, share, learn, and support each other in our parenting journey throughout Texas? We'd like to find out what resources and information would help Texas gifted families. [Fill out our survey](#) if you would like to express your interest or share ideas

YOUR CORNER OF TEXAS

Study: Impact of HB3 and COVID on GT

The University of North Texas is working to catalogue district-level changes to gifted education practices following the passage of Texas House Bill 3 and school closures stemming from COVID-19. Their goal is to document any changes to gifted education practice in the state between the 2019-2020 and 2024-2025 academic year.

Below is a link to a survey for GT educators and administrators. Please consider sharing it with GT educators in your district. It is critical that a record of any changes be maintained.

Survey link: https://unt.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cNgYYVnLk7htJXv

Your Local GT Program

The Texas Education Agency has released COVID-19 guidance specific to GT education. Current guidance and future GT-specific COVID updates can be found on the [TEA COVID-19 page for Special Populations](#).

Is your district working hard to improve GT services? Do you have concerns about GT in your district? Please let us know what you're hearing. Email us or [use our web contact form](#) to share your feedback. As a reminder, Texas GT students must be identified and served per the State Plan in all instructional models, including virtual.

Events near you

Is your local GT parent support group hosting a live or virtual meetup and looking for new members? Or ... are you feeling like the only GT family in town? Please let us know about it. GEFN wants to connect gifted families in your area. Get in touch and we'll try to help [advertise events, meetups or even "gifted family seeks other gifted families in Anytown, Texas"](#) to help connect gifted families in Texas.

LET'S CONNECT

Refer a friend

Please consider asking friends and family across Texas to [sign up for our Gifted Education Family Network](#). It's new, it's free, and its purpose is to advocate for strong, vibrant, and appropriately challenging education programs for students with exceptional potential. The broader our reach, the more GT families can connect across Texas, and the better we can all support GT learning in our schools and at home.