

Parent Resources

What does it mean to be gifted?

Gifted individuals are those who demonstrate outstanding levels of aptitude (defined as an exceptional ability to reason or learn) or who show the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience or environment. These individuals may exhibit high performance capability in an intellectual or creative area or excel in a specific academic field. Common traits of gifted individuals include, but are not limited to: intense curiosity, advanced problem-solving abilities, keen sense of humor, ability to uncover patterns and relationships, and acknowledge multiple viewpoints. Gifted individuals may be asynchronous in their development, meaning that skills may develop at different rates. Often, intellectual skills develop much more quickly than physical and/or social skills. Because gifted children demonstrate greater maturity in some domains over others, they may be at greater risk for specific kinds of social-emotional difficulties if their needs are not met, such as underachievement, perfectionism, and stress.

(Based on research from the National Association of Gifted Children and Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented.)

Useful websites:

[Texas Association for the Gifted & Talented \(TAGT\)](#)-state organization designed to empower educators and families to meet the unique needs of gifted and talented learners.

[Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted \(SENG\)](#)-national organization designed to help educators and parents meet the social and emotional needs of gifted individuals.

[National Association for Gifted Children \(NAGC\)](#)- national organization designed to meet the needs of high-ability learners.

[Hoagies Gifted Education Page](#)-resource page for parents & teachers of gifted children.

Books:

The following books are available in the Gifted and Talented/Advanced Academics Office for check-out. If you are interested in borrowing one of these books, please contact Stacye Onstott at stacye.onstott@birdvilleschools.net or Julia Hyman at julia.hyman@birdvilleschools.net.

A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children by James T. Webb, Janet L. Gore, Edward R. Amend, & Arlene R. DeVries

Emotional Intensity in Gifted Students by Christine Fonseca

The Survival Guide for Parents of Gifted Kids by Sally Yahnke Walker

The Impulsive, Disorganized Child by James W. Forgan & Mary Anne Richey

When Gifted Kids Don't Have All the Answers by Judy Galbraith & Jim DeLisle