



CHANDLER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 80

James T. Perry Administration Center • 1525 West Frye Road • Chandler, AZ 85224
(480) 812-7000 • FAX: (480) 224-9353

"Dedicated to Excellence"

Camille Casteel, Ed.D., Superintendent

November 22, 2019

To the Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) of ____:

It is an exciting time in Chandler Unified School District as we expand our gifted programming options. As part of our ongoing efforts to keep parents informed of the options for the 2020-2021 school year, we have included information below to guide your decision as to which program best meets the needs of your child. It is our hope that the frequently asked questions and responses are helpful.

What will the configuration of grade levels be at Weinberg Gifted Academy (WGA)?

WGA will open with kindergarten through fifth grade. Sixth grade classrooms will be established during the 2021-2022 school year. Due to construction on campus, we intend to open the 2020-2021 school year with 16 classrooms: kindergarten (2 classrooms), first through fourth (3 classrooms each) and fifth (2 classrooms).

Will there be a different gifted education philosophy at WGA?

Based on our parent survey data this fall, we will continue to offer a problem-based learning environment, which incorporates creativity and student interests. We will also continue to utilize technology in a meaningful way, for students to learn standards, collaborate with peers and capitalize on flexible grouping options.

What are the hiring timelines for WGA?

The principal position will be posted during the month of December. Once the principal is selected the support staff and teachers will be interviewed in the spring.

Will the gifted satellite programs continue?

CUSD will continue to offer multiple options for gifted programming. Gifted consultative services will continue to be available at every elementary school site. The self-contained gifted satellite programs will continue to be located at Hull, Jacobson and Ryan for the 2020-2021 school year. As always, the size and the grade levels offered at each of these sites will depend upon enrollment and classroom availability. Gifted clustering and multi-grade classrooms may be an option as enrollment changes.

What transportation options will exist for the gifted academies?

Depot transportation will continue to be offered for students living within the CUSD attendance boundaries. School busses will pick up students from their home schools and transport them to either Knox Gifted Academy (KGA) or Weinberg Gifted Academy (WGA). Depot hubs may exist at one or two elementary sites, where students may board a new bus.

Will Kids Express or Community Education Preschool options be available at WGA?

We will provide before and after school childcare through Kids Express at WGA, but there are no plans to place a preschool at the campus during the 2020-2021 school year.

What before/after school clubs will be available at WGA?

WGA will offer multiple clubs, Community Education opportunities as well as teacher-sponsored options.

What support staff will be available to students at WGA?

In CUSD, we have counselors, school psychologists and resource teachers who work as a team to meet student needs at all school sites. This will continue at WGA.

What special area classes will be offered at WGA?

Similar to KGA, WGA will offer: technology, PE, global studies and music/performing arts. However, the principal and staff will determine final development. Band and Orchestra will be available for 5th and 6th grade students.

What is the gifted program enrollment process for the 2020-2021 school year?

All students will continue to apply for the self-contained gifted program (satellite, KGA and WGA) through open enrollment. You can find information about open enrollment, as well as the open enrollment application from the following website: www.cusd80.com/ElemOpenEnroll2020. Open enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year will open at 7:30 a.m. on January 13, 2020.

Do students need to retest, if they already have qualifying cognitive abilities test scores?

If your child has already qualified for gifted services and has a 97th percentile or higher on the CogAT administered in CUSD, retesting is not needed. We have these scores on file and you are welcome to apply for the self-contained gifted program through open enrollment. If your child does not yet have cognitive abilities test scores, we offer testing monthly, through May. You can find more information about registering for testing, from the following website: www.cusd80.com/GiftedTesting.

Will there be tours available at WGA?

Weinberg continues to operate as a neighborhood school site and there may be limited access to the campus over the summer, due to construction. Tour availability will be communicated at a later date.

We invite you to join us at one of two optional parent information sessions located at:
Perry High School Auditorium, 1919 E. Queen Creek Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85297
Tuesday, December 17th or Wednesday December 18th, beginning at 6:00pm
Please do not hesitate to contact April Dailey - dailey.april@cusd80.com with additional questions.

Yours in Education,



Franklin R. Narducci
Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education



Kymerly A. Marshall
Director of Student Services



April Dailey
Gifted Specialist