

RE: GATE Placements for the 2020-2021 School Year

Dear Parents of Middle School GATE Students:

Black Mountain Middle School is in the process of building the class schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. Parents of GATE children have the option to request the type of academic placement they feel will best meet the needs of their child. We also believe that the recommendation of your child's current teacher would be of great benefit in making this decision.

- GATE **Heterogeneous** Cluster: In this setting, which only applies to Humanities core classes, a cluster of GATE students are grouped with students of different abilities in a self-contained classroom.
- GATE **Homogeneous**: In this setting, which only applies to Humanities core classes, GATE identified students only.

Both formats focus on the core curriculum and offer high quality, academically rigorous programs.

The class size of the homogeneous and cluster classes is comparable to the other educational classes. GATE clusters are created based on the number of enrolled GATE students. In addition:

If the number of requests for GATE Homogeneous classes exceeds class size placement availability, a drawing would be conducted to determine the class roster. Your child would be assigned a number based on the drawing.

If your child is not selected in the drawing, they will automatically be assigned to a GATE Cluster class. A waiting list for GATE Homogeneous will be maintained and additional placements will be made should openings occur. If the number of requests for GATE Homogeneous, per grade level, is not sufficient to support the district/site class size guidelines, the Homogeneous class would not be offered.

Sincerely,

Scott Corso

Principal

Middle School GATE Class Placement Preference 2020-2021

- MY PLACEMENT REQUEST IS THE HOMOGENEOUS GATE CLASS
- MY PLACEMENT REQUEST IS THE CLUSTER GATE CLASS

Next Year's Grade (2018-2019): 6 7 8 (circle one)

Student's Name (print)

Parent Signature

Phone Number

Drawing # _____ (Office use only)