

2023-2024 Sarah Smith Elementary GATE Welcome Letter



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are excited to welcome back our students as they begin their educational journey with us in the Sarah Smith Gifted and Talented Program (GATE).

This year the GATE Lead Contacts for each campus are Jennifer Moore for PC and Miranda Richardson for IC. The best way to reach either of us is by email as listed at the close of this letter. While it is our goal to respond to emails within 24 hours of receipt, schedules & holidays may indicate a little longer reply window. Thank you in advance for your patience on that and always know we appreciate hearing from you and absolutely want to stay in touch!

Other resources for GATE communication are the school website (<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/domain/12059>) and the SRS GATE Google Site (<https://sites.google.com/apsk12.org/srsgate/home>). Program highlights, eligibility information, instructional model details and more will be made available on the school website under the GATE tab. Additionally, students who are already found eligible and enrolled in the GATE program will be included in their grade level's 23-24 Enrichment Google Classroom. This is accessible via their APS Google dashboard within Google Classroom. This will function primarily as a hub of instructional material for the student as well as a source of information for parents who choose to access it from home with their student. Occasionally logging in to that platform will allow families to see the work your student is engaging in through this program. Of course, the Enrichment Google Classroom will be separate from other teacher's Google Classrooms your child may be in for specific subject areas.

As for the framework we'll use to provide gifted services to our GATE Students, Sarah Smith uses the Cluster and Collaboration delivery models as they are the only approved models that align with the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP). See below for more information on the state's 4 models and what is approved for IB PYP schools.



GaDOE Approved Gifted Delivery Models



- **Resource Class:**
 - Teacher is gifted endorsed
 - **Students are pulled** for whole day interdisciplinary instruction
 - Curriculum is focused on **interdisciplinary enrichment activities**
- **Advanced Content:**
 - Teacher of record is gifted endorsed
 - **Students are homogenously grouped by achievement**
- **Cluster Grouping:**
 - Regular classroom teacher is gifted endorsed
 - Gifted instruction and services are delivered through the general content (differentiation)
 - **Up to 49% of the class may be identified as Gifted**
- **Collaborative Services:**
 - Classroom teacher is not gifted endorsed
 - Gifted content is delivered through the general content (differentiation) in collaboration with a Gifted-endorsed teacher
 - **No more than 8 students per homeroom may be identified as Gifted**

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, growing, and achieving!

Your GATE team,

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Ms. Miranda Richardson (IC) email: miranda.richardso@atlanta.k12.ga.us