



February, 2010

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents:

We wanted to take this opportunity to familiarize you with Marshall's GATE placement policy for our incoming 6th graders who will be articulating to Marshall in September.

**Placement in GATE** classes at Marshall is **automatic** for students who are "**District identified**," having met the qualifications for placement in the GATE program based on achieving a Raven Progressive Matrices Test score in the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile or above.

**Placement** for students who are **not "District identified"** but who meet Marshall's "space available" criteria, is **NOT automatic**.

Parents of students who meet the "**space available**" criteria (see below) **must notify the Marshall Counseling Department in writing**, that they are requesting a GATE placement, ***if space is available***. In addition, they need to **mail, email, FAX or bring in a copy of the documentation** which proves that they meet the criteria, which is either:

- 1) A score of **90-97** on the Raven Progressive Matrices Test **-OR-**
- 2) A California Standards Test (CST) score of **ADVANCED in English/Language Arts (ELA)** on either the April 2009 or April 2010 test administration.

There will be **no exceptions** to the GATE placement policy, as stated above. ***You will be notified regarding the status of your request for GATE placement when you are mailed your schedule of classes in late July/early August.***

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in following the guidelines of this procedure.

Sincerely,

Michelle Irwin, Principal  
Ileen S. Akers, Head Counselor  
Marshall Middle School

***P.S. We are unable to respond to individual phone calls or emails requesting "confirmation of receipt" of above documentation, however, if you include (with your paperwork), a self-addressed, stamped envelope, noting "RE: GATE DOCUMENTATION" somewhere on the front of the envelope, we will put that (empty) envelope in the mail to you, as confirmation of receipt!***