



GARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE: March 31, 2023

TO: All Secondary Administrators  
Secondary Counselors  
Secondary Math and ELAR Teachers

FROM: Kevin Massey, Advanced Academics Administrator

RE: Changes to Scholars Programming and Required TPR Training

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**Historical Scholars Academy and KD College Prep**

- Based on student/parent feedback, the preference is for Scholars test prep programming to be moved to the school day instead of a supplemental summer program.
  - Historically, only 50-60% of students invited to summer Scholars Academy programming have accepted the invitation to attend, and only 15-25% of students invited to KD College Prep programming have accepted the invitation to attend.

**New for 2023-2024**

- Scholars Academy will not take place during the summer and KD College Prep will not be utilized. This change provides the following:
  - Increases the number of days Scholars receive targeted test prep.
  - Provides students with test prep leading up to the October PSAT 8/9 and PSAT/NMSQT administration.
  - Removes supplemental program participation hurdles for students.
  - Expands test prep to include rising 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders compared to historical programming that served only rising 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Campuses will split the top 54-60 students in each grade level 8, 9, 10, and 11 into 2 advisory sections based on math/ELAR assessment performance:
  - MAP (Math and Reading) – Rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - PSAT 8-9 Total Score – Rising 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index Score – Rising 11<sup>th</sup> grade students.

- Campuses will receive 23-24 student grouping lists the week of April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- This will capture 162-180 students at each HS campus and 54-60 students at each MS campus far exceeding the historically served 150-200 students.
- One section in each grade level 8, 9, 10, and 11 will be taught by a math teacher and the other section by an ELAR teacher.
  - Teachers must complete (or [have completed](#)) The Princeton Review (TPR) training.
    - HS campuses with teachers that previously taught Scholars Academy during the summer are required to assign Scholars Academy teachers to the Scholars programming advisory sections.
  - The math and ELAR TPR trained teachers will coordinate switching rooms or students every other day to ensure students receive equitable math and EBRW test prep.
- Please review the [Rising Scholars Communication](#) that will be sent via Skyward Message Center to Rising Scholars (top 100 rising 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders in the district based on PSAT 8/9 total score).
- Please review the [Superintendent's Scholars Communication](#) that will be sent via Skyward Message Center to Superintendent's Scholars (top 100 rising 11<sup>th</sup> graders in the district based on PSAT/NMSQT selection index score).

### **The Princeton Review Training**

- Each HS campus is required to have 3 math and 3 ELAR TPR trained teachers to cover the Scholars programming sections.
- Each MS campus is required to have 1 math and 1 ELAR TPR trained teacher.
- Campuses need to [submit teacher names for summer 2023 TPR training](#) by June 15, 2023.
- The TPR 2-day training will be offered face-to-face (location TBD):
  - July 17 & 18 = 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. for ELAR teachers
  - July 19 & 20 = 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. for Math teachers
  - Teachers will receive supplemental pay for attending the training.