

SOUTHWESTERN COLORADO REGION - Gifted Education (970) 769-2187

In This Issue

Professional Development Opportunities

Fall Directors' Meeting

Important Dates

August 27
Southwest BOCS Mtg.
Carol Jones - Coordinator

August 28
GTAC SJBoces Mtg.
1-4PM
SJBoces Board Room

Sept. 16-17
Gifted Education Directors' Meeting
Breckenridge

October 5 & 6
CAGT Conference
Denver
www.coloradogifted.org
EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION ENDS Sept. 14.

October 23 8:30-3:30
Gifted Education Regional Network Meeting
Durango 9R Board Room

NAGC 2009
November 5-8
www.nagc.org

November 11
GTAC SJBoces Mtg.
1-4PM
SJBoces Board Room

November 14 (T)
Regional Parent Seminar

Betsey Krill
SW GERD - Gifted Education
Regional Consultant
bkrill@sjboces.org



*Gifted students'
learning and growth*

Welcome Back to the 2009-2010 School Year!

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year, a time we will focus on high quality curriculum and instruction and "catch-up, keep-up and move-up" growth for all of our students. If you have not done so already, be sure to check out the new CDE Website <http://www.schoolview.org/> and discover tools designed to help us focus on the work ahead for this school year.

We are in the second year of our State Performance Plan and have identified several continuing targets for our work this year.

- Using RtI and Progress-monitoring we will create a talent pool of students to nurture through the early grades and provide additional supports to those identified gifted students who may be at-risk of not performing to their potential in the upper grades.
- Parent engagement will increase through renewed outreach efforts from the school level and regional parent education workshops. Our first Gifted Education Regional Network Meeting on October 23 will feature the **NAGC Mile Marker Series: Your Road Map for Supporting Gifted Children**. Each district will be asked to bring one or more parents to assist with this effort.
- SWBOCS and SJBoces will collect data for a gifted education program evaluation and administer surveys to parents, teachers, administrators and students. This information will be instrumental as we consider future needs and action plans.
- Increased use of student achievement data and growth trajectories will help us focus on "commensurate growth" and the academic and social/emotional needs of students. Adjustments in programming and Advanced Learning Plans (ALPs) will occur as needed throughout the school year based on progress-monitoring data.
- Through on-line classes and coaching in differentiation, we will increase the number of teachers with background knowledge in gifted education best-practices. We will assist general education in meeting the needs of ALL students who require more rigor and challenge with supplemental or replacement curriculum and materials. Widespread use of pre-assessment, higher order thinking skills and in-depth instruction will benefit all students.

I look forward to working with you to address the above priorities, so critical to the success of our students and schools.

Professional Development Opportunities

The following on-line modules are being offered across Colorado. For more information and registration, please go to Colorado Department of Education website:

www.cde.state.co.us/gt/trainend.htm

Classes are limited to the first 20 registrations. Enrollment is \$35 for administrative costs. Adams State credit is offered for \$55 per credit if interested.

Differentiating for Gifted Learners	Sept. 1-Nov. 2, 2009 1 ASC Credit
The Gifted Reader	Sept. 21-Nov. 20, 2009 1 ASC Credit
Developing Mathematical Thinking in Gifted Learners	Oct. 5-Dec. 11, 2009 1 ASC Credit
Raising Thinking Skills for Gifted Learners	Jan. 4-March 5, 2010 1.5 ASC Credit
Affective Guidance: Addressing the Social/Emotional Needs of Gifted Learners	Jan. 11-March 12, 2010 1.5 ASC Credit
The Gifted Reader	Jan. 18-March 19, 2010 1 ASC Credit
Creativity	Jan. 25-March 26, 2010 1 ASC Credit
Developing Mathematical Thinking in Gifted Learners	March 1- April 26, 2010 1 ASC Credit
The Gifted Learner	March 1-April 23, 2010 1 ASC Credit

Should you wish to create a study group around one of the above on-line classes at your district/school site that includes professional dialogue and coaching, please contact bkrill@sjboces.org or nicki@durango.net to discuss possibilities that may work for your school. We are both certified trainers for all of the above modules as well as Differentiated Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

The **CDE Gifted Education** is working on how we might feature national experts in the field and "stream" interactive professional development from Denver. Watch for more information in the coming months.

NAGC is offering WOW (Webinars on Wednesdays) FREE for a limited time!
<http://www.nagc.org/wow.aspx>



Gifted Education Directors' Meeting

This year's Fall September 16-17 meeting will be held in Breckenridge. On Wednesday there will be discussion about the Colorado Growth Model, Program Evaluation, Project Discussion, and opportunities to visit with colleagues and discuss Lighthouse Projects from around the state. These projects will represent some of the highlights for gifted students and their families happening (and replicable) in both metro and rural areas across our state. On Thursday there will be a Data Dialogue Workshop that will give us tools to support gifted-learner data. Please bring a colleague.

CDE will pay for two nights lodging per AU. There will be no reimbursement for mileage or meals. Please let me know how I might support your attendance if travel is an issue.



KID LINKS – Language Arts

Please always check for suitability before children access any website.

<http://www.etymonline.com/>

<http://onelook.com/>

<http://www.number2.com/>

<http://www.savethewords.org/>

<http://www.behindthename.com/>

http://www.internet4classrooms.com/grade_level_help.htm