

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

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Dr. Kimberley Chandler
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*April 27 (Tentative)
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Location TBD*

*April 30
Gifted Education Directors'
Meeting
Denver*

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*Gifted students'
learning and growth*

Gifted Students and the New Standards

The Colorado Department of Education has published new content area standards for the state (SB 08-212.) Colorado districts are required to adopt the revised standards documents by December 2011. These new standards, designed with the "end in mind," are built upon those competencies required of each graduate and 21st Century Skills.

Another important difference is the knowledge and skills necessary in order for students to make progress towards achieving high school competencies is included for each grade level (K-8 and high school.) Standards are fewer in number and require more depth and breadth as indicated by the "evidence outcomes," or those indicators that let us know "what a student is able to do." They are designed to eliminate possible gaps and holes in learning and skill sets that may have been over looked throughout the grades.

As we learn to understand and effectively use the Colorado Growth Model, the new standards will provide us with a vertical road map to ensure that all students experience continuous growth. This will be beneficial for our gifted and advanced students who can move at a more rapid pace through grade level materials. It will be important for classroom teachers and gifted resource teachers to work together and fully understand how the standards can assist with acceleration and/or enrichment with greater opportunity for complexity, innovation, and high level reasoning.

Gifted Education staff can be a valuable resource in their school/districts during the process of curriculum alignment with the new standards by offering their expertise in critical thinking and other higher level instructional strategies. By understanding expectations for each grade level, they can assist to be sure all students make continuous progress and learn something new every day.

For more information about standards, visit *Frequently Asked Questions*:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/OSA/standards_implementation_FAQ_12.31.09.pdf

To view the standards:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/UAS/CoAcademicStandards.html>

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.

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 on your own schedule, please contact nicki@durango.net to discuss possibilities that may work for your school. **Limited funds are available through the region's Gifted Education Regional Consultant grant monies to assist your district.** bkrill@sjboces.org

On-Line Webinars from NAGC

<http://www.nagc.org/wow.aspx>

Feb. 10 **The Creative Underachiever: Out of the Box . . . What Box?**
7 pm Eastern Sylvia Rimm, Family Achievement Clinic, Cleveland, OH

Feb. 24 **Gifted Models that Fit Within an RtI Framework**
7pm Eastern Mary Ruth Coleman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Sneha Shah-Coltrane, NC Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, NC; Joe Renzulli, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT; George Betts, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO

March 17 **New Concepts of Creativity and Giftedness: Implications for Educators**
7pm Eastern Barbara Kerr, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Local Professional Development:

Language Arts Curriculum and Resources from the Center for Gifted Education at the College of William and Mary – Dr. Kimberley Chandler
February 22-23, 2010
bkrill@sjboces.org for information



APRIL 30 – GIFTED EDUCATION DIRECTORS' MEETING –

Underachievement

Gifted Student underachievement will be the topic for this April's Gifted Education Directors' Meeting. The speaker will be Dr. Richard Olenchak, Professor and Director, Urban Talent Institute, University of Houston, College of Education. There will be break-out sessions for parents and for directors/coordinators/teachers.



ADULT LINK: Check often for new information. It is changing all the time!
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/gt/>

KID LINKS – Science

Please always check for suitability before children access any website.

<http://www.softschools.com/science/>

<http://www.astronomy.com/asy/default.aspx?c=s&id=127>

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

<http://www.soil-net.com/>

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