



GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010
Volume 3, Issue 1

School District of Waukesha, 222 Maple Avenue, Waukesha, WI 53186
Website: <http://gt.waukesha.k12.wi.us/>

E-mail: bhunsang@waukesha.k12.wi.us

Phone: 262.970.1146

Program News

By Ben Hunsanger

This school year marks the third year of the GT Advocacy Model. It consists of four components: K-8 GT Teacher Advocates (Middle School Advocates are a new addition this year), Middle School GT student seminars, High School GT student assistance and the GT Parent Advisory Board. Differentiation in the classroom still defines the program.

Every elementary building has one or two (shared responsibility) GT Teacher Advocates. Their role is to serve as a liaison for gifted students, their families, and staff. They also coordinate co-curricular activities at their school. Some examples of these co-curriculars are: VEX Robotics, Chess Club, Stock Market, TownHall/Future Problem Solvers, and Lego Club. Advocates assist with 3rd grade transitional reviews and offer consultation with teachers concerning differentiation.

GT Advocates at middle school will primarily serve as differentiation consultants, assist with 8th grade transitional reviews, and as elementary advocates do, act as a communication liaison. Quarterly seminars for gifted middle school students will continue, implemented by the GT Coordinator. Seventh grade seminars focus on self-advocacy, learning styles, and goal setting. Eighth grade topics include career options, 21st Century skills and rigor/course selection. The coordinator also does the 8th grade transitional reviews and assists with nomination and identification at the middle school level.

At the high school level, the GT coordinator holds office hours at each high school, one day per quarter. Gifted students can meet with the coordinator individually or in group sessions centered on academic and/or social/emotional support.

The GT Parent Advisory Board meets quarterly and would ultimately like to have a parent representative from each school in the district.

CESA 1 P.A.G.E. Presentation (Parent Advocates for Gifted Education)

Intensity Through the Ages Celebrating Our
Children's Passion, Creativity, & Excitability
Presentation by Lisa Rivero

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7-8:30 p.m.
Whitnall High School, 5000 S 116th St., Greenfield,
WI

The GT Advisory Board has a number of ongoing projects they are working on and this year are focused on increasing parent involvement. If you are interested in more info. about the Parent Board please contact Becky Cooper, Parent Facilitator, racooper@wi.rr.com

Please check the other side of this newsletter for schedules of middle school seminars, high school office hours and GT Parent Advisory Board meetings.

Wishing you a successful school year!

MAPS Testing

The School District will continue using MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Testing this school year.

A unique and positive aspect of the MAP test is that it adapts to individual students based on their responses to each question on the test. Elementary students will take the MAP three times during the year, fall, winter and spring. Secondary students will take the test twice, fall and spring.

Teachers use the results in planning instruction Parents will receive MAP growth results at the conclusion of spring testing. Performance on the test will not affect grades.

Newsletters are posted on the GT website the beginning of Nov., end of Jan., end of March and beginning of June.

Link for GT Advocates K-8 2010-2011

<http://www.waukesha.k12.wi.us/portals/0/GT%20Advocates%2010-11%20K-8.pdf>

GT Parent Advisory Board Meetings

- November 30, 6:00 - 7:30 PM
- February 22, 6:00 - 7:30 PM
- May 24, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

At the Lindholm Building, Rooms 213-215

Middle School Seminars

Butler

- Tuesday, January 11
- Tuesday, March 15
- Tuesday, May 17

Central

- Monday, January 10
- Wednesday, March 16
- Wednesday, May 18

Horning

- Thursday, January 13
- Thursday, March 17
- Thursday, May 12

WSA Saratoga

- Friday, January 14
 - Friday, March 18
 - Friday, May 13
-

High School Office Hours

North

- Tuesday, January 25
- Tuesday, March 22
- Tuesday, May 24

South

- Wednesday, January 26
- Wednesday, March 23
- Wednesday, May 25

West

- Thursday, January 27
- Thursday, March 24
- Thursday, May 19