

Gifted and Talented at Laredo Middle School

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In Cherry Creek School District, gifted students are given an array of options to best meet their needs, per a set of national laws pertaining to Gifted Students.

At Laredo Middle School, gifted students are encouraged to take advanced/honors in the area(s) they are identified in. One major difference from Gifted and Talented in elementary school is that students are not part of a pull-out program. They are instead placed in the class that best fits their needs, and Advanced Learning Plans are created to provide students and teachers with measurable academic and affective goals each year.

In addition to classroom learning, students are encouraged to check out the Math League, Student Book Club and upcoming writing club. New opportunities for G/T students will be communicated to parents and students as they arise.

Cherry Creek Association for Gifted and Talented Update - October, 2015

Welcome to your Cherry Creek Association for Gifted and Talented (Cherry Creek GT)!

We have many opportunities this year to grow, educate, and advocate for our gifted students, Kindergarten through 12th grade. Please take advantage of the upcoming meetings and conferences listed here, share your ideas, and contact us with your questions and comments. We highly recommend attendance at the **October 8** Cherry Creek Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented (more dates listed below) and the **March 10** District Accountability Meeting (details below).

Cherry Creek GT's Mission is to:

- Foster an understanding of gifted and talented (GT) learners and their exceptional needs;
- Advocate for appropriate GT services and programming through partnership with educators, parents, administrators, legislators, and the general public; and
- Work collaboratively with the Cherry Creek School District's Board of Education, administration, educators, and families to serve gifted learners who reside within the school district's boundaries.

Cherry Creek GT's Goals are to:

- Be an inclusive organization that is service-driven and solution focused;
- Nurture positive communication and partnerships between all stakeholders in the Cherry Creek School District, including GT educators, families, and administrators;
- Advocate for, and support, GT legislation, resources, services, and programming that embody excellence and equity; and
- Educate the public about the unique needs of gifted children through outreach events, publications, and networking opportunities.

Please plan to attend the Cherry Creek Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented, **Thursday, October 8, 5:00-6:00 PM** at the Student Achievement Resource Center (SARC), 14188 E. Briarwood Ave. Centennial, 80112. Jennifer Gottschalk, District Coordinator of Gifted Education and Advanced Learning, will provide legislative updates and district action items around those rule changes. Formally-identified gifted students are also invited and will have an opportunity to meet in an adjacent space to provide feedback to the district and to discuss aspects of growth mindset.

At the end of this update, we've added valuable resources and websites, so be sure to read all the way through.

Thank you for your interest in our gifted community!

Sincerely,

Cherry Creek GT

<http://cherrycreekg.org>

Cherry Creek GT is a local affiliate of the Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented www.coloradogifted.org

Upcoming Meetings and Conference Opportunities:

Cherry Creek Schools Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented

The purpose of the Cherry Creek Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented is to offer a means for district and building level representatives to focus on the development and implementation of goals for Gifted and Talented Education and to provide a network for communication, support, and accountability. Anyone is welcome to attend the GT Advisory Council meetings. Every school in the district is urged to send a representative. School representatives have the opportunity to receive pertinent information from GT Advisory Council to take back to buildings. We would like to invite gifted students into the conversation. The four meetings will be designed to include the voices of the children who are our focus. If you have a formally-identified gifted child who is willing to participate, we would be delighted to have him/her join us for any of the meetings. Meetings of the GT Advisory Council will take place from 5:00-6:00 PM at the Student Achievement Resource Center (SARC), 14188 E. Briarwood Ave. Centennial, 80112 (unless otherwise noted). Meeting dates for the Cherry Creek Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented, 2015-2016 school year:

Thursday, October 8th

Thursday, December 10th, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Speaker: Dr. Floyd Cobb, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Thursday, February 18th

Thursday, April 21st

Change in Location: Instructional Support Facility, 5416 S. Riviera Way, Centennial

For information please call: 720-554-5052

<http://www.cherrycreekschools.org/GT/Pages/Advisory-Council.aspx#sthash.X3Us8R7q.dpuf>

Parent Institute at the Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented Conference

Parenting the Whole Child: Meeting the Socio-Emotional, Motivational, and Academic Needs of Our Children

Monday, October 19, 2015, 6:30pm – 9:00 pm

Embassy Suites. Loveland, 4705 Clydesdale Parkway, Loveland, CO 80538

Expert Panel Discussion Featuring:

George Betts, Ed.D., Professor Emeritus at University of Northern Colorado, Author,
President of National Association of Gifted Children (NAGC)

Del Siegle, Ph.D., Professor at the University of Connecticut, Author, Co-Editor of Gifted Child Quarterly, Director of
the National Center for Research on Gifted Education, Past-President of NAGC

Linda Silverman, Ph.D., Founder and Director of the Institute for the Study of Advanced Development and its
subsidiaries, Gifted Development Center and Visual-Spatial Resource, Author

Patty Gatto-Walden, Ph.D., Senior Fellow for the Institute of Educational Advancement & Co-Founder of Yunasa
West, Author & Psychologist for the Gifted, Specializing in Holistic Health and the Highly Gifted

Lisa Van Gemert, M.A., Creator and Author of giftedguru.com, Educator and Consultant, Youth and Education
Ambassador for American Mensa and the Mensa Foundation

Evening Schedule:

6:30 p.m. Registration, Vendors and Networking. Light refreshments will be served.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Expert Panel Discussion, including Q & A with Parents

Please register online at www.coloradogifted.org by Thursday, October 15th

The fee is \$20 per person or for two adults from the same household.

<http://www.coloradogifted.org/images/2015ParentInstituteFlyerwithQR%202.pdf>

[Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented \(CAGT\) Conference, October 19 & 20, 2015](#)

Embassy Suites Loveland, 4705 Clydesdale Pkwy, Loveland, CO 80538

Keynoters:

Lisa Van Gemert, Mensa's Education Liaison and Education Trainer

Dan Peters, Summit Center in California and author of Make Your Worrier a Warrior

Jonathan Plucker, University of Connecticut and author of Mind the Other Gap

CAGT Conference Prices: Two Days (October 19 and 20): \$295. One Day (October 19 or 20): \$195.
<http://www.coloradogifted.org/conference>

Cherry Creek Schools' District Accountability Committee (DAC)

This committee has broad responsibilities for ensuring the district's continued educational success and cost-effective management. The committee is organized in compliance with Colorado state law. Members of this committee advise Cherry Creek School District Board of Education members on spending priorities, review applications for charter schools, and report the effectiveness of district programs.

<http://www.cherrycreekschools.org/AssessmentEvaluation/Pages/DAC.aspx>

DAC Meeting Schedule: October 7, November 4, 2016: January 6, February 3, March 10, (Thursday), and April 13. All regular meetings will be at 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Instructional Support Facility (ISF), 5416 S. Riviera Way, Centennial, 80015.

Monthly Topic Schedule: <http://www.cherrycreekschools.org/AssessmentEvaluation/Documents/DAC%202015%20-%202016%20Topic%20Schedule%20FINAL.pdf>

PLEASE NOTE the GT focus on March 10: *Different Students, Different Needs*, March 10, 2016: Meeting the needs of English Language Learners, Students with Special Needs, and **Gifted and Talented Students**; Dr. Holly Porter, Director ELA; Frances Woolery-Jones, Director Secondary Ed/SPED; **Jennifer Gottschalk, District Coordinator, Gifted Education and Advanced Learning.**

CCSD 2021 Meetings: Determining the Future of Cherry Creek Schools

7 PM, Tuesday, Oct. 20, Cherokee Trail High School

Our students are our future. Join us for an important conversation to further our vision of dedicated to excellence and foster the best possible opportunities for success for all students. We'll talk about what students should know, understand and be able to do when they graduate as they prepare for college and careers as we update our graduation requirements.

We need to hear your voices. What are your hopes and dreams for your child? What kinds of opportunities will your child need to be successful? Working together we can help make all their dreams come true

To get the conversation started, think about the following questions:

- What are the hopes, dreams and desires that you have for students as learners?
- What skills/knowledge/attitudes or behaviors/dispositions will a successful graduate in the year 2021 need to possess to be college and career ready?
- What specialized programming options may need to be created for students to be college and career ready?

After a brief presentation, participants will be asked to break into small groups so that everyone will have a chance to be heard. The last meeting is at 7 PM, Tuesday, October 20, at Cherokee Trail High School.

<http://www.cherrycreekschools.org/Pages/CCSD-2012---Determining-the-Future-of-Cherry-Creek-Schools.aspx#sthash.rYZlfjZ.dpuf>

Free Online trainings about Twice-Exceptional Students: Gifted Students with Disabilities

This class is offered to those who want to learn more about gifted students with disabilities, including: Special educators, Gifted educators, General educators, Specialized service providers, Administrators, Counselors/psychologists/social workers, and parents.

These classes provide information about the characteristics and needs of gifted students with disabilities, as well as planning and instructional strategies, and practice in how to use existing structures, such as MTSS, to support coordinated services. Case studies are a part of each class. *Graduate credit is available.*

Contact Wendy Leader with questions at: leader_w@cde.state.co.us 303.866.6414

http://www.cde.state.co.us/gt/2xlevel1information_15-16

Recommended resources:

- Cherry Creek GT <http://cherrycreekgt.org>,
- Cherry Creek GT Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cherry-Creek-GT/648543935192332?fref=ts>
- Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented, www.coloradogifted.org
- CAGT Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-Association-for-Gifted-and-Talented/289234839487>
- Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted, SENG model parent groups, <http://www.sengifted.org/programs/seng-model-parent-groups>
- Colorado Department of Education: Office of Gifted and Talented Education <http://www.cde.state.co.us/gt>
- National Association for Gifted Children, <http://www.nagc.org>