



TAGT Parent Conference
Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center
4400 West 18th Street, Houston, TX
February 13, 2010

Be sure to check for updated information at www.txgifted.org

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

8:15 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Exhibit Area Open

9:00 – 10:05 a.m. Welcome / General Session / Keynote Address

Parenting Resilient Children

Dr. Rosina Gallagher, Board President, Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted

Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adversity. It is also the capacity to build satisfying, meaningful lives by seeking new experiences and reaching out to others. Resilience skills can be taught. Let's consider a model to help us navigate the joyful but difficult road of parenting.

Dr. Gallagher's keynote address is generously sponsored by the Summer Institute for the Gifted, a TAGT Corporate Partner.



EN ESPAÑOL

Una Introducción a La Asociación de Tejas para el Dotado y Talentoso (TAGT)

Jose Laguna, TAGT Tercer Vice-Presidente anterior y Judson TAG Grupo de Padres

TAGT se ha dedicado a encontrar las necesidades distintivas de estudiantes dotados y talentosos. Venga para aprender más acerca de TAGT, acerca de sus esfuerzos legislativos, y acerca de servicios dirigidos hacia estudiantes talentosos y sus padres.

10:05 – 10:30 a.m. Networking Session and Exhibit Area Open

Meet TAGT's Parents and Community Involvement (PCI) Advisory Board

Len Avecilla, PCI Chairperson / TAGT Third Vice-President and others

The PCI Advisory Board serves as an interface between TAGT's governance, and our parent members. This group (consisting of TAGT Board members, parents, and other community leaders) serves in this liaison role in order to collect and represent current needs, and to support parents' efforts in their respective communities (e.g. parent affiliate groups).

It is crucial that communication flows freely between our parents and this important link to TAGT's programs and services, insofar as they relate to and support the needs of parents. Please take this opportunity to visit with some of the members of the PCI Advisory Board, and most importantly, to provide your input, your suggestions for how TAGT can best continue to be an important resource for your parenting journey.



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10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions

Meeting the Needs of the Twice Exceptional Child

Angela Standridge, Parent/Region 4 ESC

Starting with the characteristics and behaviors of the twice exceptional child, come learn strategies to support those who are both gifted and have learning disabilities. As time permits, we will give an overview of hands-on instruction and assistive technologies that can also support student success.

The Squeaky Wheel and the Grease: How Local G/T Parent Groups Can Connect Parents and Serve Students

Susan Sweeney, Katy Parents of Gifted and Talented Students, Inc.

Local G/T parent groups can break through the isolation that G/T parents often feel, serve the needs of gifted students and work constructively with educators. A Houston-area G/T parent group leader will share the strategies that have helped the group flourish for more than 23 years. From simple to complex, there will be something for everyone to take home and adapt to their community. The simple ideas will allow you to connect and serve even if you do not have the energy to start a formal organization.

Beyond the Schoolhouse Walls: Learning on Nights and Weekends

Len Avecilla, Parents Advocating for Gifted Education (PAGE), Keller ISD / TAGT 3rd Vice-President

Creating inspiring challenges and learning opportunities that supplement in-school projects and assignments can benefit gifted students; extended learning experiences can focus on some of their very specific interests and enlarge their real-world and career-oriented exposures. Creating an individualized and sequenced program plan, identifying both physical and online resources, and balancing your children's often hectic schedule *can* be successfully managed. Educating our children is, after all 24/7.

Affective Curriculum – Molding Education to Fit Your “CLETD” Child

Susan Jackson, Urban Talent Research Institute- University of Houston and , G/T Parent

What is “CLETD”? Culturally, Linguistically, Economically, or Talent Diverse. Many children from certain populations are still greatly underrepresented in gifted programs, including those who are gifted in non-traditional or non-academic areas and those who are twice-exceptional. Find out about affective/social-emotional curriculum and what you can do to support your child in being recognized and served appropriately.

Storybooks to the Rescue: Understanding Giftedness through Developmental Bibliotherapy

Lori Lewis, Parent, Humble

Gifted children often feel misunderstood, unsure how their gifts and talents fit in their world, and can feel isolated not being part of a group that is similar to them. Bibliotherapy helps children to relate to characters and situations with which they can make connections. In this session, an explanation of how to use books to as a catalyst to guide gifted children will be given. Several storybooks covering common gifted behaviors will be shared.

EN ESPAÑOL

Educando Hijos Exitosos

Dr. Rosina Gallagher, Presidente, Apoyando las necesidades emocionales del individuo dotado

El educar a los hijos hoy en día comprende ayudarles a desarrollar un autoestima basada en capacidades para desenvolverse dentro de la familia, en el colegio, en el trabajo y dentro de la sociedad. La adversidad es inevitable. Para enfrentarla, necesitamos reconocer que la manera de pensar afecta la conducta y que los pensamientos pesimistas se pueden cambiar por otros que nos permitan seguir adelante. Veámos ciertas técnicas que ayudarán a sus hijos a realizar sus metas.



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11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Lunch on your own / Exhibit Area Open

12:50 – 1:50 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Resilience: Self-Efficacy, Emotion Regulation, Impulse Control

Dr. Rosina Gallagher, Board President, Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted

Mastering resilience skills takes time, patience, practice. The process can be fun when parents model and engage children in simulating scenarios and real, every-day experiences. Let's practice linking thoughts and emotions, evaluating automatic, pessimistic thoughts, and generating alternatives to solve problems and keep moving forward.

Is Early College High School Right for Your Gifted Student?

Elizabeth Chapman, Clear Creek ISD, with Dr. Mary Gagne and Scott Stevenson, Texas Academy for Leadership in the Humanities

If your local high school is failing to meet your gifted teenager's needs, then early college high school might be the answer. The Texas Academy for Leadership in the Humanities is a prestigious residential, dual-credit high school for the state's most gifted young people. Graduates earn up to two years of college credits which may be transferred to most public schools in Texas as well as to many Ivy League universities. But the Academy offers more than acceleration – it provides students with a foundation in the liberal arts, a community of thoughtful, intelligent peers, personal and academic counseling and more.

Effective Advocacy 101: Parent to Parent

Susan Sweeney, Katy Parents of Gifted and Talented Students. Inc. and Tracy Fisher, Coppell Gifted Association

Parents of gifted students are more effective advocates for their child when they understand the vocabulary of education, best practices in gifted education, state law and strategies for working constructively with educators. This session will provide information, suggest resources and provide an opportunity to share successful approaches with one another. We will also briefly address how to stay current on federal and state legislative efforts.

Parenting Profoundly Gifted Children

Stacia Taylor, Houston Parents of Profoundly Gifted

A profoundly gifted child may differ from the "average" gifted child as much as that gifted child differs from an "average" child. Consequently, being a parent of a profoundly gifted child comes with a new set of challenges, concerns, and rewards. Come learn more.

EN ESPAÑOL

Asincronía: La razón porque sus hijos necesitan el programa de dotados y talentosos

Ana Cantu, Clear Creek ISD

En este taller para los padres hablaremos sobre la falta de coincidencia temporal en los hechos. La necesidad de apoyar sus hijos en sus emociones, sus habilidades de compartir con compañeros de la misma edad y de la misma edad cognitivamente, y ser sobre saliente en las academias.



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2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Irlen Syndrome and the Gifted Student

Dr. Patricia Johnson, Texas Irlen Association

Irlen Syndrome is a visual perceptual difficulty that can effect reading, writing and spelling. It can also mask as an attention deficit disorder and effects all ages and abilities. Learn about Irlen Syndrome, how to spot it and what to do for it.

Feed the Need: Parenting a Highly Creative Gifted Child

Angela Standridge, Parent/Region 4 ESC, and Rodger Standridge, Houston ISD

Keeping up with our 11-year old, very creative gifted son is more than a 24/7/365 job. This session will explore some of the challenges we have encountered as well as tips and tricks we have learned along the way. One must have a relaxed attitude, a balanced perspective and a sense of humor. We have learned there is much more involved than just finding the right school or enrichment activities and that accomplishments can be measured in a myriad of ways, the least of which is academic achievement.

The Intensity of Giftedness

Dr. Lynette Breedlove, Spring Branch ISD

If you're the parent of a gifted child, you've probably noticed their intensity. It usually follows a pattern. Dabrowski's Overexcitabilities explain and categorize this intensity. Find out more about the OEs and how to help kids cope with their intensity.

Around Round Tables: Needs-Based Networking (and Connecting Once This Conference Is Over)

Moderator: Len Avecilla, Parents Advocating for Gifted Education, Keller ISD / TAGT 3rd Vice-President

This session is designed to connect you with other parents that are solving, or *have* solved, some of your highest priority challenges. Also reviewed will be mechanisms for staying in touch, ranging from participating in TAGT's online *TX GiftedCafe*, to demonstrating quick setup for resources like Google Groups, parent portals, and other Web 2.0 mechanisms for staying in touch – even when separated by distance.

Tables of small groups of parents will consider a select number of timely topics, including “When the teacher gives you ‘No’ for an answer,” “There’s not enough interested parents to form a group,” “No one in the District seems interested, or listening, enough,” “My child used to like to go to school” – and maybe more... Please visit with us for this unique approach to sharing experiences and solutions – and extending your encounters for long after this conference is over.

EN ESPAÑOL

¡Ayuda! Talentosos y Dotados en Casa

Jesus Antonio Martinez, Houston ISD

Participantes aprenderán consejos útiles para ayudar a sus hijos dotados y talentosos. También, aprenderán como crear y usar actividades y proyectos en casa que ayuden al desarrollo intelectual de sus hijos (a). Entender la forma en que niños (a) dotados y talentosos piensan y el porqué de la importancia de escuchar a sus preguntas es el primer paso para establecer una buena comunicación y ofrecerles el mejor apoyo.

Thanks to TAGT Corporate Partners:





Parent Conference Registration Form

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Name: _____

School District Your Child/Children Attend: _____

Your Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Work Telephone: _____

E-Mail: (required): _____ Fax: _____

TAGT member? Yes No (TAGT Parent Membership costs only \$25—you are encouraged to join!)

Are you a member of a parent advocacy group for gifted children? Yes No

If yes, what is the group's name? _____

REGISTRATION FEE / METHOD OF PAYMENT

Conference Registration fee is \$49 per person and includes a continental breakfast.

Register online at www.txgifted.org or do so by mail or fax.

Check/Money Order # _____ Credit Card (complete section below)

Credit Card Payment: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Card Number _____ CVV# _____ Exp. Date _____

Card Holder Name _____ Signature _____

Billing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send completed form and payment to:

TAGT Parent Conference

P.O. Box 1918

San Antonio, TX 78297

Fax: 512-499-8264 (for credit card only)

Postmark deadline for mailed registration is February 1; register by fax or online until February 10.

Cancellations must be made in writing to the TAGT office by February 1; \$10 cancellation fee.

Please note any special needs for accessibility or other items below.