

# **GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI**

## **2021 State Advocacy Agenda**

**The Gifted Association of Missouri requests your advocacy on the following issues:**

### **FUNDING FOR GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Support legislation that requires every school in Missouri provide state approved gifted education programs for students identified as “gifted” under section 162.675 and that all program services are provided by teachers with a valid certification in gifted education.

House Bill XX, sponsored by Rep. Aaron Griesheimer (R-Washington) and Senate Bill XX, sponsored by Senator Denny Hoskins (R-Warrensburg) have been filed to address GAM’s number one priority legislation for the 2021 session.

### **MISSOURI SCHOLARS ACADEMY & MISSOURI FINE ARTS ACADEMY**

**Support state funding for the Missouri Scholars Academy and Missouri Fine Arts Academy for June, 2022.**

- The Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program at MU for 330 high school juniors who are academically gifted;
- The Fine Arts Academy is a three-week residential program at MSU for 150 rising high school juniors and seniors who are gifted in the arts.

### **MISSOURI SCHOOL FOUNDATION FORMULA FUNDING**

Support increased funding for the Missouri School Foundation Formula. Support \$3.9 billion appropriation in House Bill 2 for the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

### **OTHER GIFTED FACTS & FIGURES**

- \$24,870,104 was appropriated for gifted education in FY2006. There were 295 school districts with state approved gifted programs. In FY2007, this amount was rolled into the new foundation formula. Without this line item providing earmarked funding for state approved gifted programs, those funds can be spent on other programs, and there are now only 212 school districts offering state approved gifted programs.

## **2021 GAM DAY AT THE CAPITOL IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, AT 11:00 AM**

You can find your legislators by visiting the Missouri Senate website.  
Legislative Look-Up: [www.senate.mo.gov/llookup/leg\\_lookup.aspx](http://www.senate.mo.gov/llookup/leg_lookup.aspx)  
It will give you contact information and a webpage on your Legislators.

If you have questions, please contact GAM’s Governmental Consultant, Kyna Iman, at [kynaiman@earthlink.net](mailto:kynaiman@earthlink.net)